

1.1 Senator moves to amend S.F. No. 2077 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "ARTICLE 1

1.4 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS

1.5 Section 1. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS.

1.6 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies
1.7 and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund,
1.8 or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose.
1.9 The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under
1.10 them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively.
1.11 "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium"
1.12 is fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

1.13	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
1.14	<u>Available for the Year</u>	
1.15	<u>Ending June 30</u>	
1.16	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>

1.17 Sec. 2. POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

1.18	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>157,580,000</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>163,566,000</u>
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1.19	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
1.20		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
1.21	<u>General</u>	<u>9,122,000</u>	<u>9,072,000</u>
1.22	<u>State Government</u>		
1.23	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
1.24	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>119,906,000</u>	<u>125,675,000</u>
1.25	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>21,962,000</u>	<u>22,229,000</u>
1.26	<u>Closed Landfill</u>		
1.27	<u>Investment</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>

1.28 The amounts that may be spent for each
1.29 purpose are specified in the following
1.30 subdivisions.

1.31 The commissioner must present the agency's
1.32 biennial budget for fiscal years 2028 and 2029
1.33 to the legislature in a transparent way by
1.34 agency division, including the proposed

2.1 budget bill and presentations of the budget to
2.2 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
2.3 over the agency's budget.

2.4 Subd. 2. **Environmental Analysis and Outcomes** 23,077,000 25,027,000

2.5	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
2.6		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
2.7	<u>General</u>	<u>283,000</u>	<u>296,000</u>
2.8	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>22,575,000</u>	<u>24,511,000</u>
2.9	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>219,000</u>	<u>220,000</u>

2.10 (a) \$128,000 the first year and \$131,000 the
2.11 second year are from the environmental fund
2.12 for a municipal liaison to assist municipalities
2.13 with water quality standards and NPDES/SDS
2.14 permitting processes, including enhanced
2.15 economic analysis in the water quality
2.16 standards rulemaking processes, identification
2.17 of cost-effective permitting opportunities,
2.18 simplifying the variance process, and
2.19 coordinating with the Public Facilities
2.20 Authority to identify and advocate for needed
2.21 resources for municipalities to achieve permit
2.22 requirements.

2.23 (b) \$1,182,000 the first year and \$1,191,000
2.24 the second year are from the environmental
2.25 fund for an air-monitoring program under
2.26 Minnesota Statutes, section 116.454, including
2.27 ambient air for hazardous pollutants, and for
2.28 operating a mobile emissions regulatory
2.29 monitoring trailer.

2.30 (c) \$144,000 the first year and \$148,000 the
2.31 second year are from the environmental fund
2.32 for monitoring water quality and operating
2.33 assistance programs.

3.1 (d) \$109,000 the first year and \$109,000 the
3.2 second year are from the environmental fund
3.3 for duties related to harmful chemicals in
3.4 children's products under Minnesota Statutes,
3.5 sections 116.9401 to 116.9407. Of this
3.6 amount, \$70,000 the first year and \$70,000
3.7 the second year are transferred to the
3.8 commissioner of health.

3.9 (e) \$137,000 the first year and \$139,000 the
3.10 second year are from the environmental fund
3.11 for registering wastewater laboratories.

3.12 (f) \$1,527,000 the first year and \$1,529,000
3.13 the second year are from the environmental
3.14 fund to continue perfluorochemical
3.15 biomonitoring in eastern metropolitan
3.16 communities, as recommended by the
3.17 Environmental Health Tracking and
3.18 Biomonitoring Advisory Panel, and to address
3.19 other environmental health risks, including air
3.20 quality. The communities must include Hmong
3.21 and other immigrant farming communities.
3.22 Of this amount, up to \$1,248,000 the first year
3.23 and \$1,248,000 the second year are for transfer
3.24 to the commissioner of health.

3.25 (g) \$64,000 the first year and \$65,000 the
3.26 second year are from the environmental fund
3.27 for the listing procedures for impaired waters
3.28 required under this act.

3.29 (h) \$79,000 the first year and \$80,000 the
3.30 second year are from the remediation fund for
3.31 the leaking underground storage tank program
3.32 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
3.33 releases from underground petroleum storage
3.34 tanks and for the petroleum remediation
3.35 program for vapor assessment and

4.1 remediation. These same annual amounts are
 4.2 transferred from the petroleum tank fund to
 4.3 the remediation fund.

4.4 (i) \$283,000 the first year and \$296,000 the
 4.5 second year are from the general fund to
 4.6 support communities in planning to implement
 4.7 projects that will allow for adaptation for a
 4.8 changing climate.

4.9 (j) \$2,139,000 the first year and \$2,160,000
 4.10 the second year are from the environmental
 4.11 fund to develop and implement a program
 4.12 related to emerging issues, including
 4.13 Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint.

4.14 (k) \$1,893,000 the first year and \$1,915,000
 4.15 the second year are from the environmental
 4.16 fund to support improved management of data
 4.17 collected by the agency and its partners and
 4.18 regulated parties to facilitate decision-making
 4.19 and public access.

4.20 (l) \$1,448,000 the second year is from the
 4.21 environmental fund to adopt rules and
 4.22 implement air toxics emissions requirements
 4.23 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.062.

4.24 (m) \$904,000 the first year and \$911,000 the
 4.25 second year are from the environmental fund
 4.26 for monitoring ambient air for hazardous air
 4.27 pollutants in Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington,
 4.28 and Olmsted Counties.

4.29 (n) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the
 4.30 second year are from the environmental fund
 4.31 to address wastewater effluent limits and
 4.32 variances for backlogged permits.

4.33 Subd. 3. **Industrial**

24,144,000

27,443,000

5.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
5.2	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
5.3	<u>General</u>	<u>782,000</u>
5.4	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>21,376,000</u>
5.5	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>1,986,000</u>

5.6 (a) \$1,876,000 the first year and \$1,902,000
5.7 the second year are from the remediation fund
5.8 for the leaking underground storage tank
5.9 program to investigate, clean up, and prevent
5.10 future releases from underground petroleum
5.11 storage tanks and for the petroleum
5.12 remediation program for vapor assessment
5.13 and remediation. These same annual amounts
5.14 are transferred from the petroleum tank fund
5.15 to the remediation fund.

5.16 (b) \$457,000 the first year and \$457,000 the
5.17 second year are from the environmental fund
5.18 to further evaluate the use and reduction of
5.19 trichloroethylene around Minnesota and
5.20 identify its potential health effects on
5.21 communities. Of this amount, \$149,000 the
5.22 first year and \$149,000 the second year are
5.23 for transfer to the commissioner of health.

5.24 (c) \$257,000 the first year and \$264,000 the
5.25 second year are from the general fund for
5.26 implementation of the odor management
5.27 requirements under Minnesota Statutes,
5.28 section 116.064.

5.29 (d) \$148,000 the second year is from the
5.30 environmental fund for the purposes of the
5.31 public informational meeting requirements
5.32 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.07,
5.33 subdivision 4m.

5.34 (e) \$2,698,000 the first year and \$2,718,000
5.35 the second year are from the environmental

6.1 fund for prioritizing air regulatory program
6.2 work in environmental justice areas.

6.3 (f) \$2,539,000 the second year is from the
6.4 environmental fund for implementing the
6.5 environmental justice cumulative impact
6.6 analysis and other requirements under
6.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 116.065.

6.8 (g) \$730,000 the first year and \$740,000 the
6.9 second year are from the environmental fund
6.10 to improve the coordination, effectiveness,
6.11 transparency, and accountability of the
6.12 environmental review and permitting process.

6.13 (h) \$700,00 the first year and \$700,000 the
6.14 second year are to address backlogged permits.
6.15 Of this amount, \$525,000 the first year and
6.16 \$525,000 the second year are from the general
6.17 fund and \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000
6.18 the second year are from the environmental
6.19 fund.

6.20	<u>Subd. 4. Municipal</u>	<u>11,271,000</u>	<u>11,410,000</u>
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6.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
6.22		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
6.23	<u>State Government</u>		
6.24	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
6.25	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>11,181,000</u>	<u>11,320,000</u>

6.26 (a) \$228,000 the first year and \$233,000 the
6.27 second year are from the environmental fund
6.28 for a municipal liaison to assist municipalities
6.29 with water quality standards and NPDES/SDS
6.30 permitting processes, including enhanced
6.31 economic analysis in the water quality
6.32 standards rulemaking processes, identification
6.33 of cost-effective permitting opportunities,
6.34 simplifying the variance process, and
6.35 coordinating with the Public Facilities

7.1 Authority to identify and advocate for needed
7.2 resources for municipalities to achieve permit
7.3 requirements.

7.4 (b) \$50,000 the first year and \$50,000 the
7.5 second year are from the environmental fund
7.6 for transfer to the Office of Administrative
7.7 Hearings to establish sanitary districts.

7.8 (c) \$2,511,000 the first year and \$2,535,000
7.9 the second year are from the environmental
7.10 fund for subsurface sewage treatment system
7.11 (SSTS) program administration; for
7.12 community technical assistance and education,
7.13 including grants and technical assistance to
7.14 communities for water-quality protection, new
7.15 technology review, and enforcement under
7.16 Minnesota Statutes, sections 115.55 to 115.58;
7.17 and to complete the requirements of Laws
7.18 2003, chapter 128, article 1, section 165. Of
7.19 this amount, \$350,000 each year is for
7.20 assistance to counties through grants for SSTS
7.21 program administration. A county receiving
7.22 a grant from this appropriation must submit
7.23 the results achieved with the grant to the
7.24 commissioner as part of its annual SSTS
7.25 report. Any unexpended balance in the first
7.26 year does not cancel but is available in the
7.27 second year.

7.28 (d) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
7.29 section 16A.28, the appropriations
7.30 encumbered on or before June 30, 2027, as
7.31 grants or contracts for subsurface sewage
7.32 treatment systems, surface water and
7.33 groundwater assessments, storm water, and
7.34 water-quality protection in this subdivision
7.35 are available until June 30, 2030.

8.1	<u>Subd. 5. Operations</u>	<u>15,584,000</u>	<u>15,650,000</u>
8.2	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
8.3	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	
8.4	<u>General</u>	<u>4,219,000</u>	<u>4,115,000</u>
8.5	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>8,733,000</u>	<u>8,870,000</u>
8.6	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>2,632,000</u>	<u>2,665,000</u>
8.7	<u>(a) \$1,187,000 the first year and \$1,201,000</u>		
8.8	<u>the second year are from the remediation fund</u>		
8.9	<u>for the leaking underground storage tank</u>		
8.10	<u>program to investigate, clean up, and prevent</u>		
8.11	<u>future releases from underground petroleum</u>		
8.12	<u>storage tanks and for the petroleum</u>		
8.13	<u>remediation program for vapor assessment</u>		
8.14	<u>and remediation. These same annual amounts</u>		
8.15	<u>are transferred from the petroleum tank fund</u>		
8.16	<u>to the remediation fund.</u>		
8.17	<u>(b) \$3,204,000 the first year and \$3,300,000</u>		
8.18	<u>the second year are from the general fund to</u>		
8.19	<u>support agency information technology</u>		
8.20	<u>services provided at the enterprise and agency</u>		
8.21	<u>level.</u>		
8.22	<u>(c) \$955,000 the first year and \$965,000 the</u>		
8.23	<u>second year are from the environmental fund</u>		
8.24	<u>to develop and maintain systems to support</u>		
8.25	<u>permitting and regulatory business processes</u>		
8.26	<u>and agency data.</u>		
8.27	<u>(d) \$278,000 the first year and \$280,000 the</u>		
8.28	<u>second year are from the environmental fund</u>		
8.29	<u>to support current and future career pathways</u>		
8.30	<u>for underrepresented students.</u>		
8.31	<u>(e) \$375,000 the first year and \$380,000 the</u>		
8.32	<u>second year are from the environmental fund</u>		
8.33	<u>to support financial planning and analysis to</u>		

9.1 assist with risk and compliance management

9.2 across agency programs and financial systems.

9.3 (f) \$538,000 the first year and \$542,000 the

9.4 second year are from the environmental fund

9.5 for Operations Division legal services that

9.6 support compliance programs.

9.7 (g) \$815,000 the first year and \$815,000 the

9.8 second year are from the general fund for

9.9 developing tools to improve permitting

9.10 issuance processes. This appropriation is

9.11 available until June 30, 2029. This is a onetime

9.12 appropriation.

9.13 (h) \$200,000 the first year is from the general

9.14 fund to expand outreach under Minnesota

9.15 Statutes, section 116.07, subdivision 13. This

9.16 is a onetime appropriation.

9.17 (i) The total general fund base for the

9.18 Operations Division for fiscal year 2028 and

9.19 later is \$3,300,000.

9.20	<u>Subd. 6. Remediation</u>	<u>23,861,000</u>	<u>24,068,000</u>
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9.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
9.22		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
9.23	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>642,000</u>	<u>646,000</u>
9.24	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>16,719,000</u>	<u>16,922,000</u>
9.25	<u>Closed Landfill</u>		
9.26	<u>Investment</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>

9.27 (a) All money for environmental response,

9.28 compensation, and compliance in the

9.29 remediation fund not otherwise appropriated

9.30 is appropriated to the commissioners of the

9.31 Pollution Control Agency and agriculture for

9.32 purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section

9.33 115B.20, subdivision 2, clauses (1), (2), (3),

9.34 (6), and (7). At the beginning of each fiscal

10.1 year, the two commissioners must jointly
10.2 submit to the commissioner of management
10.3 and budget an annual spending plan that
10.4 maximizes resource use and appropriately
10.5 allocates the money between the two
10.6 departments.

10.7 (b) \$4,965,000 the first year and \$5,036,000
10.8 the second year are from the remediation fund
10.9 for the leaking underground storage tank
10.10 program to investigate, clean up, and prevent
10.11 future releases from underground petroleum
10.12 storage tanks and for the petroleum
10.13 remediation program for vapor assessment
10.14 and remediation. These same annual amounts
10.15 are transferred from the petroleum tank fund
10.16 to the remediation fund.

10.17 (c) \$316,000 the first year and \$316,000 the
10.18 second year are from the remediation fund for
10.19 transfer to the commissioner of health for
10.20 private water-supply monitoring and health
10.21 assessment costs in areas contaminated by
10.22 unpermitted mixed municipal solid waste
10.23 disposal facilities and drinking water
10.24 advisories and public information activities
10.25 for areas contaminated by hazardous releases.

10.26 (d) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
10.27 second year are from the remediation fund to
10.28 review and mitigate the impacts from the
10.29 backlog of high-priority sites in the Superfund
10.30 site assessment program.

10.31 (e) \$6,500,000 the first year and \$6,500,000
10.32 the second year are from the closed landfill
10.33 investment fund for costs not otherwise
10.34 covered with other resources under the landfill
10.35 cleanup program in Minnesota Statutes,

11.1 sections 115B.39 to 115B.444. This is a
11.2 onetime appropriation and is available until
11.3 June 30, 2029. The commissioner must report
11.4 on all work plans and expenditures from this
11.5 appropriation to the chairs and ranking
11.6 minority members of the legislative
11.7 committees having jurisdiction over
11.8 environment policy and finance by February
11.9 15, 2027.

11.10 **Subd. 7. Resource Management and Assistance** 46,830,000 46,985,000

11.11	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
11.12		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
11.13	<u>General</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
11.14	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>46,760,000</u>	<u>46,915,000</u>

11.15 (a) Up to \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000
11.16 the second year may be transferred from the
11.17 environmental fund to the small business
11.18 environmental improvement loan account
11.19 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993.

11.20 (b) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
11.21 the second year are from the environmental
11.22 fund for competitive recycling grants under
11.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.565. This
11.24 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.

11.25 (c) \$694,000 the first year and \$694,000 the
11.26 second year are from the environmental fund
11.27 for emission-reduction activities and grants to
11.28 small businesses and other
11.29 nonpoint-emission-reduction efforts. Of this
11.30 amount, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000
11.31 the second year are to continue work with
11.32 Clean Air Minnesota, and the commissioner
11.33 may enter into an agreement with
11.34 Environmental Initiative to support this effort.

- 12.1 (d) \$18,450,000 the first year and \$18,450,000
12.2 the second year are from the environmental
12.3 fund for SCORE block grants to counties.
- 12.4 (e) \$119,000 the first year and \$119,000 the
12.5 second year are from the environmental fund
12.6 for environmental assistance grants or loans
12.7 under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716.
- 12.8 (f) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
12.9 second year are from the environmental fund
12.10 for grants to develop and expand recycling
12.11 markets for Minnesota businesses. This
12.12 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.
- 12.13 (g) \$770,000 the first year and \$770,000 the
12.14 second year are from the environmental fund
12.15 for reducing and diverting food waste,
12.16 redirecting edible food for consumption, and
12.17 removing barriers to collecting and recovering
12.18 organic waste. Of this amount, \$500,000 each
12.19 year is for grants to increase food rescue and
12.20 waste prevention. This appropriation is
12.21 available until June 30, 2029.
- 12.22 (h) \$2,829,000 the first year and \$2,835,000
12.23 the second year are from the environmental
12.24 fund for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes,
12.25 section 473.844.
- 12.26 (i) \$479,000 the first year and \$481,000 the
12.27 second year are from the environmental fund
12.28 to address chemicals in products, including to
12.29 implement and enforce flame retardant
12.30 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
12.31 325F.071, and perfluoroalkyl and
12.32 polyfluoroalkyl substances in food packaging
12.33 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
12.34 325F.075. Of this amount, \$80,000 the first

13.1 year and \$80,000 the second year are
13.2 transferred to the commissioner of health.

13.3 (j) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the
13.4 second year are from the environmental fund
13.5 for Minnesota GreenCorps investment.

13.6 (k) \$1,143,000 the first year and \$1,152,000
13.7 the second year are from the environmental
13.8 fund for implementation of the PFAS
13.9 requirements under Minnesota Statutes,
13.10 section 116.943. Of this amount, \$468,000 the
13.11 first year and \$468,000 the second year are
13.12 for transfer to the commissioner of health.

13.13 (l) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the
13.14 second year are from the environmental fund
13.15 to address land permitting activities.

13.16 (m) \$215,000 the first year and \$215,000 the
13.17 second year are from the environmental fund
13.18 to enhance existing work to reduce or
13.19 eliminate mercury-containing skin-lightening
13.20 products. The base is \$195,000 in fiscal year
13.21 2028 and thereafter.

13.22 (n) Any unencumbered grant and loan
13.23 balances in the first year do not cancel but are
13.24 available for grants and loans in the second
13.25 year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
13.26 section 16A.28, the appropriations
13.27 encumbered on or before June 30, 2027, as
13.28 contracts or grants for environmental
13.29 assistance awarded under Minnesota Statutes,
13.30 section 115A.0716; technical and research
13.31 assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section
13.32 115A.152; technical assistance under
13.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.52; and
13.34 pollution prevention assistance under

14.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 115D.04, are
14.2 available until June 30, 2029.

14.3 Subd. 8. **Watershed** 11,268,000 11,401,000

14.4 Appropriations by Fund

14.5		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
14.6	<u>General</u>	<u>2,459,000</u>	<u>2,459,000</u>
14.7	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>8,403,000</u>	<u>8,533,000</u>
14.8	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>406,000</u>	<u>409,000</u>

14.9 (a) \$2,459,000 the first year and \$2,459,000
14.10 the second year are from the general fund for
14.11 grants to delegated counties to administer the
14.12 county feedlot program under Minnesota
14.13 Statutes, section 116.0711, subdivisions 2 and
14.14 3. Money remaining after the first year is
14.15 available for the second year.

14.16 (b) \$137,000 the first year and \$138,000 the
14.17 second year are from the remediation fund for
14.18 the leaking underground storage tank program
14.19 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
14.20 releases from underground petroleum storage
14.21 tanks and for the petroleum remediation
14.22 program for vapor assessment and
14.23 remediation. These same annual amounts are
14.24 transferred from the petroleum tank fund to
14.25 the remediation fund.

14.26 (c) Any unencumbered grant and loan balances
14.27 in the first year do not cancel but are available
14.28 for grants and loans in the second year.

14.29 Subd. 9. **Environmental Quality Board** 1,545,000 1,582,000

14.30 Appropriations by Fund

14.31		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
14.32	<u>General</u>	<u>1,309,000</u>	<u>1,343,000</u>
14.33	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>236,000</u>	<u>239,000</u>

14.34 Subd. 10. **Transfers**

15.1 The commissioner must transfer up to
15.2 \$24,000,000 the first year and \$24,000,000
15.3 the second year from the environmental fund
15.4 to the remediation fund for purposes of the
15.5 remediation fund under Minnesota Statutes,
15.6 section 116.155, subdivision 2.

15.7 Sec. 3. NATURAL RESOURCES

15.8 Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation \$ 395,474,000 \$ 396,761,000

15.9	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
15.10		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
15.11	<u>General</u>	<u>130,981,000</u>	<u>131,435,000</u>
15.12	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>132,981,000</u>	<u>133,379,000</u>
15.13	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>130,675,000</u>	<u>131,098,000</u>
15.14	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>117,000</u>	<u>117,000</u>
15.15	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>720,000</u>	<u>732,000</u>

15.16 The amounts that may be spent for each
15.17 purpose are specified in the following
15.18 subdivisions.

15.19 Subd. 2. Land and Mineral Resources
15.20 Management 10,569,000 10,615,000

15.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
15.22		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
15.23	<u>General</u>	<u>5,069,000</u>	<u>5,099,000</u>
15.24	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>4,929,000</u>	<u>4,940,000</u>
15.25	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>344,000</u>	<u>344,000</u>
15.26	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>227,000</u>	<u>232,000</u>

15.27 (a) \$319,000 the first year and \$319,000 the
15.28 second year are for environmental research
15.29 relating to mine permitting, of which \$200,000
15.30 each year is from the minerals management
15.31 account in the natural resources fund and
15.32 \$119,000 each year is from the general fund.

15.33 (b) \$3,639,000 the first year and \$3,650,000
15.34 the second year are from the minerals

16.1 management account in the natural resources
16.2 fund for use as provided under Minnesota
16.3 Statutes, section 93.2236, paragraph (c), for
16.4 mineral resource management, projects to
16.5 enhance future mineral income, and projects
16.6 to promote new mineral-resource
16.7 opportunities.

16.8 (c) \$227,000 the first year and \$232,000 the
16.9 second year are from the permanent school
16.10 fund to secure maximum long-term economic
16.11 return from the school trust lands consistent
16.12 with fiduciary responsibilities and sound
16.13 natural resources conservation and
16.14 management principles.

16.15 (d) \$573,000 the first year and \$573,000 the
16.16 second year are from the water management
16.17 account in the natural resources fund for only
16.18 the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes,
16.19 section 103G.27, subdivision 2.

16.20 (e) \$160,000 the first year is from the general
16.21 fund for completing the condemnation of
16.22 certain land in Mille Lacs County authorized
16.23 under Minnesota Laws 2024, chapter 116,
16.24 article 8, section 13. This is a onetime
16.25 appropriation and is available until June 30,
16.26 2027.

16.27	<u>Subd. 3. Ecological and Water Resources</u>	<u>45,902,000</u>	<u>47,332,000</u>
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16.28	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
16.29		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
16.30	<u>General</u>	<u>22,470,000</u>	<u>22,732,000</u>
16.31	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>17,608,000</u>	<u>18,776,000</u>
16.32	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>5,824,000</u>	<u>5,824,000</u>

16.33 (a) \$6,077,000 the first year and \$6,082,000
16.34 the second year are from the invasive species

17.1 account in the natural resources fund and
17.2 \$1,631,000 the first year and \$1,631,000 the
17.3 second year are from the general fund for
17.4 management, public awareness, assessment
17.5 and monitoring research, and water access
17.6 inspection to prevent the spread of invasive
17.7 species; management of invasive plants in
17.8 public waters; and management of terrestrial
17.9 invasive species on state-administered lands.

17.10 (b) \$7,801,000 the first year and \$8,791,000
17.11 the second year are from the water
17.12 management account in the natural resources
17.13 fund for only the purposes specified in
17.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.27,
17.15 subdivision 2.

17.16 (c) \$124,000 the first year and \$124,000 the
17.17 second year are for a grant to the Mississippi
17.18 Headwaters Board for up to 50 percent of the
17.19 cost of implementing the comprehensive plan
17.20 for the upper Mississippi within areas under
17.21 the board's jurisdiction.

17.22 (d) \$264,000 the first year and \$264,000 the
17.23 second year are for grants for up to 50 percent
17.24 of the cost of implementing the Red River
17.25 mediation agreement.

17.26 (e) \$2,598,000 the first year and \$2,598,000
17.27 the second year are from the heritage
17.28 enhancement account in the game and fish
17.29 fund for only the purposes specified in
17.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
17.31 paragraph (h), clause (1).

17.32 (f) \$1,150,000 the first year and \$1,150,000
17.33 the second year are from the nongame wildlife
17.34 management account in the natural resources

18.1 fund for nongame wildlife management.

18.2 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section

18.3 290.431, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000

18.4 the second year may be used for nongame

18.5 wildlife information, education, and

18.6 promotion.

18.7 (g) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,

18.8 section 84.943, \$48,000 the first year and

18.9 \$48,000 the second year from the critical

18.10 habitat private sector matching account may

18.11 be used to publicize the critical habitat license

18.12 plate match program.

18.13 (h) \$4,555,000 the first year and \$4,555,000

18.14 the second year are for the following activities:

18.15 (1) financial reimbursement and technical

18.16 support to soil and water conservation districts

18.17 or other local units of government for

18.18 groundwater-level monitoring;

18.19 (2) surface water monitoring and analysis,

18.20 including installing monitoring gauges;

18.21 (3) groundwater analysis to assist with

18.22 water-appropriation permitting decisions;

18.23 (4) permit application review incorporating

18.24 surface water and groundwater technical

18.25 analysis;

18.26 (5) precipitation data and analysis to improve

18.27 irrigation use;

18.28 (6) information technology, including

18.29 electronic permitting and integrated data

18.30 systems; and

18.31 (7) compliance and monitoring.

18.32 (i) \$410,000 the first year and \$410,000 the

18.33 second year are from the heritage enhancement

19.1 account in the game and fish fund, and
19.2 \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
19.3 second year are from the general fund are for
19.4 the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species
19.5 Research Center at the University of
19.6 Minnesota to prioritize, support, and develop
19.7 research-based solutions that can reduce the
19.8 effects of aquatic invasive species in
19.9 Minnesota by preventing spread, controlling
19.10 populations, and managing ecosystems and to
19.11 advance knowledge to inspire action by others.

19.12 (j) \$129,000 the first year is from the general
19.13 fund for providing research, policy review,
19.14 and assisting the Sustainable Foraging Task
19.15 Force. This is a onetime appropriation.

19.16 **Subd. 4. Forest Management**

19.17 Appropriations by Fund

19.18	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	
19.19	<u>General</u>	<u>42,800,000</u>	<u>43,383,000</u>
19.20	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>16,206,000</u>	<u>16,293,000</u>
19.21	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>1,617,000</u>	<u>1,617,000</u>

19.22 (a) \$7,521,000 the first year and \$7,521,000
19.23 the second year are for prevention,
19.24 presuppression, and suppression costs of
19.25 emergency firefighting and other costs
19.26 incurred under Minnesota Statutes, section
19.27 88.12. The amount necessary to pay for
19.28 presuppression and suppression costs during
19.29 the biennium is appropriated from the general
19.30 fund. By January 15 each year, the
19.31 commissioner of natural resources must submit
19.32 a report to the chairs and ranking minority
19.33 members of the house and senate committees
19.34 and divisions having jurisdiction over
19.35 environment and natural resources finance that

60,623,000

61,293,000

20.1 identifies all firefighting costs incurred and
20.2 reimbursements received in the prior fiscal
20.3 year. These appropriations may not be
20.4 transferred. Any reimbursement of firefighting
20.5 expenditures made to the commissioner from
20.6 any source other than federal mobilizations
20.7 must be deposited into the general fund.

20.8 (b) \$15,706,000 the first year and \$15,793,000
20.9 the second year are from the forest
20.10 management investment account in the natural
20.11 resources fund for only the purposes specified
20.12 in Minnesota Statutes, section 89.039,
20.13 subdivision 2.

20.14 (c) \$1,617,000 the first year and \$1,617,000
20.15 the second year are from the heritage
20.16 enhancement account in the game and fish
20.17 fund to advance ecological classification
20.18 systems (ECS), forest habitat, and invasive
20.19 species management.

20.20 (d) \$940,000 the first year and \$947,000 the
20.21 second year are for the Forest Resources
20.22 Council to implement the Sustainable Forest
20.23 Resources Act.

20.24 (e) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
20.25 second year are from the forest management
20.26 investment account in the natural resources
20.27 fund for forest road maintenance on state
20.28 forest roads.

20.29 (f) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
20.30 second year are for forest road maintenance
20.31 on county forest roads.

20.32 (g) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
20.33 second year are for grants to local and Tribal
20.34 governments and nonprofit organizations to

21.1	<u>enhance community forest ecosystem health</u>		
21.2	<u>and sustainability under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
21.3	<u>section 88.82. The commissioner may use a</u>		
21.4	<u>reasonable amount of this appropriation for</u>		
21.5	<u>administering ReLeaf grants.</u>		
21.6	<u>Subd. 5. Parks and Trails Management</u>	<u>115,277,000</u>	<u>113,137,000</u>
21.7	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
21.8		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
21.9	<u>General</u>	<u>37,076,000</u>	<u>36,474,000</u>
21.10	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>75,901,000</u>	<u>74,363,000</u>
21.11	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>2,300,000</u>	<u>2,300,000</u>
21.12	<u>(a) \$8,925,000 the first year and \$9,238,000</u>		
21.13	<u>the second year are from the natural resources</u>		
21.14	<u>fund for state trail, park, and recreation area</u>		
21.15	<u>operations. This appropriation is from revenue</u>		
21.16	<u>deposited in the natural resources fund under</u>		
21.17	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,</u>		
21.18	<u>paragraph (h), clause (2).</u>		
21.19	<u>(b) \$23,859,000 the first year and \$23,615,000</u>		
21.20	<u>the second year are from the state parks</u>		
21.21	<u>account in the natural resources fund to</u>		
21.22	<u>operate and maintain state parks and state</u>		
21.23	<u>recreation areas.</u>		
21.24	<u>(c) \$1,300,000 the first year and \$1,300,000</u>		
21.25	<u>the second year are from the natural resources</u>		
21.26	<u>fund for park and trail grants to local units of</u>		
21.27	<u>government on land to be maintained for at</u>		
21.28	<u>least 20 years for parks or trails. Priority must</u>		
21.29	<u>be given for projects that are in underserved</u>		
21.30	<u>communities or that increase access to persons</u>		
21.31	<u>with disabilities. This appropriation is from</u>		
21.32	<u>revenue deposited in the natural resources fund</u>		
21.33	<u>under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,</u>		
21.34	<u>paragraph (h), clause (4). Any unencumbered</u>		

22.1 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.2 year and is available for the second year.

22.3 (d) \$9,624,000 the first year and \$9,624,000
22.4 the second year are from the snowmobile trails
22.5 and enforcement account in the natural
22.6 resources fund for the snowmobile
22.7 grants-in-aid program. Any unencumbered
22.8 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.9 year and is available for the second year.

22.10 (e) \$2,535,000 the first year and \$2,435,000
22.11 the second year are from the natural resources
22.12 fund for the off-highway vehicle grants-in-aid
22.13 program. Of this amount, \$2,060,000 the first
22.14 year and \$1,960,000 the second year are from
22.15 the all-terrain vehicle account, \$150,000 each
22.16 year is from the off-highway motorcycle
22.17 account, and \$325,000 each year is from the
22.18 off-road vehicle account. Any unencumbered
22.19 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.20 year and is available for the second year.

22.21 (f) \$2,750,000 the first year and \$2,750,000
22.22 the second year are from the state land and
22.23 water conservation account in the natural
22.24 resources fund for priorities established by the
22.25 commissioner for eligible state projects and
22.26 administrative and planning activities
22.27 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
22.28 84.0264, and the federal Land and Water
22.29 Conservation Fund Act. Any unencumbered
22.30 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.31 year and is available for the second year.

22.32 (g) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
22.33 second year are from the general fund for
22.34 matching grants for local parks and outdoor

23.1 recreation areas under Minnesota Statutes,
23.2 section 85.019, subdivision 2.

23.3 (h) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
23.4 second year are from the general fund for
23.5 matching grants for local trail connections
23.6 under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019,
23.7 subdivision 4c.

23.8 (i) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the
23.9 second year are from the natural resources
23.10 fund for projects and activities that connect
23.11 diverse and underserved Minnesotans through
23.12 expanding cultural environmental experiences,
23.13 exploration of their environment, and outdoor
23.14 recreational activities. This appropriation is
23.15 from revenue deposited in the natural
23.16 resources fund under Minnesota Statutes,
23.17 section 297A.94, paragraph (j).

23.18 (j) \$400,000 the first year is from the general
23.19 fund for a grant to the city of Silver Bay for
23.20 construction of the Silver Bay Trailhead. This
23.21 is a onetime appropriation and is available
23.22 until June 30, 2028.

23.23 (k) \$500,000 the first year is from the general
23.24 fund for a grant to the city of Chisholm for
23.25 trail development, maintenance, and related
23.26 amenities at Redhead Mountain Bike Park.
23.27 This is a onetime appropriation and is
23.28 available until June 30, 2028.

23.29 (l) \$752,000 in the first year is from the
23.30 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
23.31 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
23.32 all-terrain vehicle trail projects. This is a
23.33 onetime appropriation and is available until

24.1 June 30, 2028. The grant is for the following
24.2 projects:

24.3 (1) \$75,000 for the Alborn Dirt Devils Club
24.4 to engineer, permit, and acquire right-of-way
24.5 for the County Road 166 to Ostman Road
24.6 ATV trail project;

24.7 (2) \$480,000 for the Ranger Snowmobile/ATV
24.8 Club to engineer and construct the Seven
24.9 Beavers ATV trail project;

24.10 (3) \$100,000 for the Twig Area Trail Riders
24.11 ATV Club to permit, design, engineer, and
24.12 acquire right-of-way for the Lumberjack to
24.13 Brookston ATV trail; and

24.14 (4) \$97,000 for the Quad Cities ATV Club to
24.15 engineer, survey, test, design, and construct
24.16 the club trailhead project.

24.17 (m) \$200,000 in the first year is from the
24.18 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
24.19 resources fund for a grant to the city of Duluth
24.20 and Head of the Lakes ATV Riders for a
24.21 Duluth area all-terrain vehicle route study to
24.22 establish connectivity to and through the
24.23 western part of the city of Duluth. This is a
24.24 onetime appropriation and is available until
24.25 June 30, 2028.

24.26 (n) \$380,000 in the first year is from the
24.27 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
24.28 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
24.29 for design, right-of-way acquisition,
24.30 permitting, and construction of trails within
24.31 the Voyageur Country ATV trail system. This
24.32 is a onetime appropriation and is available
24.33 until June 30, 2028.

25.1 (o) \$175,000 in the first year is from the
25.2 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
25.3 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
25.4 for design, right-of-way acquisition,
25.5 permitting, and construction of trails and a
25.6 new trail bridge within the Prospectors Loop
25.7 trail system. This is a onetime appropriation
25.8 and is available until June 30, 2028.

25.9	<u>Subd. 6. Fish and Wildlife Management</u>	<u>97,389,000</u>	<u>98,019,000</u>
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25.10	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
25.11		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
25.12	<u>General</u>	<u>9,120,000</u>	<u>9,185,000</u>
25.13	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>2,182,000</u>	<u>2,424,000</u>
25.14	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>86,087,000</u>	<u>86,410,000</u>

25.15 (a) \$12,125,000 the first year and \$12,097,000
25.16 the second year are from the heritage
25.17 enhancement account in the game and fish
25.18 fund only for activities specified under
25.19 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
25.20 paragraph (h), clause (1). Notwithstanding
25.21 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94, five
25.22 percent of this appropriation may be used for
25.23 expanding hunter and angler recruitment and
25.24 retention.

25.25 (b) \$8,546,000 the first year and \$8,546,000
25.26 the second year are from the deer management
25.27 account in the game and fish fund for the
25.28 purposes identified in Minnesota Statutes,
25.29 section 97A.075, subdivision 1.

25.30 (c) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
25.31 second year are from the heritage enhancement
25.32 account in the game and fish fund for grants
25.33 for natural-resource-based education and
25.34 recreation programs serving youth under
25.35 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.976. The

26.1 commissioner may use a reasonable amount
26.2 of this appropriation for administering grants
26.3 authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section
26.4 84.976. Priority must be given to projects
26.5 benefiting underserved communities.

26.6 (d) Up to \$2,225,000 the first year and up to
26.7 \$2,225,000 the second year are available for
26.8 transfer from the critical habitat private sector
26.9 matching account to the reinvest in Minnesota
26.10 fund for wildlife management areas
26.11 acquisition, restoration, and enhancement
26.12 according to Minnesota Statutes, section
26.13 84.943, subdivision 5, paragraph (b).

26.14 (e) \$3,032,000 the first year and \$3,032,000
26.15 the second year are from the general fund and
26.16 \$1,675,000 the first year and \$1,675,000 the
26.17 second year are from the game and fish fund
26.18 for statewide response and management of
26.19 chronic wasting disease. Of this amount, up
26.20 to \$2,750,000 each year from the general fund
26.21 is for inspections, investigations, and
26.22 enforcement activities taken for the
26.23 white-tailed deer farm program.

26.24 (f) \$500,000 the first year and \$348,000 the
26.25 second year are from the general fund for the
26.26 Outdoor School for All program under
26.27 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.9766.

26.28 (g) \$225,000 the first year is from the general
26.29 fund to expand outreach under Minnesota
26.30 Statutes, section 84.027, subdivision 21. This
26.31 is a onetime appropriation.

26.32	<u>Subd. 7. Enforcement</u>	<u>63,890,000</u>	<u>64,534,000</u>
26.33	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
26.34	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	

27.1	<u>General</u>	<u>14,225,000</u>	<u>14,341,000</u>
27.2	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>15,045,000</u>	<u>15,473,000</u>
27.3	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>34,503,000</u>	<u>34,603,000</u>
27.4	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>117,000</u>	<u>117,000</u>

27.5 (a) \$1,718,000 the first year and \$1,718,000
 27.6 the second year are from the general fund for
 27.7 enforcement efforts to prevent the spread of
 27.8 aquatic invasive species.

27.9 (b) \$2,980,000 the first year and \$2,980,000
 27.10 the second year are from the heritage
 27.11 enhancement account in the game and fish
 27.12 fund for only the purposes specified under
 27.13 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
 27.14 paragraph (h), clause (1).

27.15 (c) \$1,442,000 the first year and \$1,442,000
 27.16 the second year are from the water recreation
 27.17 account in the natural resources fund for grants
 27.18 to counties for boat and water safety. Any
 27.19 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
 27.20 end of the first year and is available for the
 27.21 second year.

27.22 (d) \$315,000 the first year and \$315,000 the
 27.23 second year are from the snowmobile trails
 27.24 and enforcement account in the natural
 27.25 resources fund for grants to local law
 27.26 enforcement agencies for snowmobile
 27.27 enforcement activities. Any unencumbered
 27.28 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
 27.29 year and is available for the second year.

27.30 (e) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
 27.31 second year are from the all-terrain vehicle
 27.32 account in the natural resources fund for grants
 27.33 to qualifying organizations to assist in safety
 27.34 and environmental education and monitoring
 27.35 trails on public lands under Minnesota

28.1 Statutes, section 84.9011. Grants issued under
28.2 this paragraph must be issued through a formal
28.3 agreement with the organization. By
28.4 December 15 each year, an organization
28.5 receiving a grant under this paragraph must
28.6 report to the commissioner with details on
28.7 expenditures and outcomes from the grant. Of
28.8 this appropriation, \$25,000 each year is for
28.9 administering these grants. Any unencumbered
28.10 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
28.11 year and is available for the second year.

28.12 (f) \$510,000 the first year and \$510,000 the
28.13 second year are from the natural resources
28.14 fund for grants to county law enforcement
28.15 agencies for off-highway vehicle enforcement
28.16 and public education activities based on
28.17 off-highway vehicle use in the county. Of this
28.18 amount, \$498,000 each year is from the
28.19 all-terrain vehicle account, \$11,000 each year
28.20 is from the off-highway motorcycle account,
28.21 and \$1,000 each year is from the off-road
28.22 vehicle account. The county enforcement
28.23 agencies may use money received under this
28.24 appropriation to make grants to other local
28.25 enforcement agencies within the county that
28.26 have a high concentration of off-highway
28.27 vehicle use. Of this appropriation, \$25,000
28.28 each year is for administering the grants. Any
28.29 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
28.30 end of the first year and is available for the
28.31 second year.

28.32 (g) \$262,000 the first year and \$262,000 the
28.33 second year are from the water recreation
28.34 account in the natural resources fund for
28.35 investigating, notification, and removal of

29.1 abandoned watercraft on or adjacent to public
29.2 waters and public land.

29.3 (h) \$20,000 the first year and the second year
29.4 are from the off-highway motorcycle account
29.5 in the natural resources fund for grants to
29.6 qualifying off-highway motorcycle
29.7 organizations to assist in providing safety and
29.8 environmental education and monitoring trails
29.9 on public lands according to Minnesota
29.10 Statutes, section 84.9011. Grants awarded
29.11 under this subdivision must be issued through
29.12 a formal agreement with the organization. By
29.13 December 15 each year, an organization
29.14 receiving a grant under this subdivision must
29.15 report to the commissioner with details on how
29.16 the money was expended and what outcomes
29.17 were achieved.

29.18	<u>Subd. 8. Pass Through Funds</u>	<u>1,824,000</u>	<u>1,831,000</u>
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29.19	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
29.20		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
29.21	<u>General</u>	<u>221,000</u>	<u>221,000</u>
29.22	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>
29.23	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>493,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>

29.24 (a) \$510,000 the first year and \$510,000 the
29.25 second year are from the natural resources
29.26 fund for grants to be divided equally between
29.27 the city of St. Paul for the Como Park Zoo and
29.28 Conservatory and the city of Duluth for the
29.29 Lake Superior Zoo. This appropriation is from
29.30 revenue deposited to the natural resources fund
29.31 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
29.32 paragraph (h), clause (5).

29.33 (b) \$221,000 the first year and \$221,000 the
29.34 second year are from the general fund for the
29.35 Office of School Trust Lands.

30.1 (c) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
30.2 second year are from the permanent school
30.3 fund for transaction and project management
30.4 costs for divesting of school trust lands within
30.5 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

30.6 (d) \$343,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
30.7 second year are from the permanent school
30.8 fund for the Office of School Trust Lands.

30.9 (e) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the
30.10 second year are from the natural resources
30.11 fund for parks and trails of regional
30.12 significance outside the seven-county
30.13 metropolitan area under Minnesota Statutes,
30.14 section 85.535, based on the recommendations
30.15 from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks
30.16 and Trails Commission. This appropriation is
30.17 from revenue deposited in the natural
30.18 resources fund under Minnesota Statutes,
30.19 section 297A.94, paragraph (i).

30.20 Subd. 9. **Transfers**

30.21 \$720,000 the first year and \$732,000 the
30.22 second year are transferred from the forest
30.23 suspense account to the permanent school
30.24 fund.

30.25 Sec. 4. **BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL**
30.26 **RESOURCES**

\$ 15,945,000 \$ 16,102,000

30.27 (a) \$3,116,000 the first year and \$3,116,000
30.28 the second year are for grants and payments
30.29 to soil and water conservation districts for
30.30 accomplishing the purposes of Minnesota
30.31 Statutes, chapter 103C, and for other general
30.32 purposes, nonpoint engineering, and
30.33 implementation and stewardship of the
30.34 reinvest in Minnesota reserve program.
30.35 Expenditures may be made from this

31.1 appropriation for supplies and services
31.2 benefiting soil and water conservation
31.3 districts. Any district receiving a payment
31.4 under this paragraph must maintain a website
31.5 that publishes, at a minimum, the district's
31.6 annual report, annual audit, annual budget,
31.7 and meeting notices.

31.8 (b) \$1,560,000 the first year and \$1,560,000
31.9 the second year are for the following:

31.10 (1) \$1,460,000 the first year and \$1,460,000
31.11 the second year are for cost-sharing programs
31.12 of soil and water conservation districts for
31.13 accomplishing projects and practices
31.14 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
31.15 103C.501, including perennially vegetated
31.16 riparian buffers, erosion control, water
31.17 retention and treatment, water quality
31.18 cost-sharing for feedlots and nutrient and
31.19 manure management projects in watersheds
31.20 where there are impaired waters, and other
31.21 high-priority conservation practices; and

31.22 (2) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
31.23 second year are for invasive species and weed
31.24 management programs and to restore native
31.25 plants at selected invasive species management
31.26 sites.

31.27 (c) \$166,000 the first year and \$166,000 the
31.28 second year are to provide technical assistance
31.29 to local drainage management officials and
31.30 for the costs of the Drainage Work Group. The
31.31 board must coordinate the activities of the
31.32 Drainage Work Group according to Minnesota
31.33 Statutes, section 103B.101, subdivision 13.

32.1 (d) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
32.2 second year are for a grant to the Red River
32.3 Basin Commission for water quality and
32.4 floodplain management, including program
32.5 administration. This appropriation must be
32.6 matched by nonstate funds.

32.7 (e) \$140,000 the first year and \$140,000 the
32.8 second year are for grants to Area II
32.9 Minnesota River Basin Projects for floodplain
32.10 management.

32.11 (f) \$240,000 the first year and \$240,000 the
32.12 second year are for a grant to the Lower
32.13 Minnesota River Watershed District to defray
32.14 the annual cost of sustaining the state, national,
32.15 and international commercial and recreational
32.16 navigation on the lower Minnesota River.

32.17 (g) \$203,000 the first year and \$203,000 the
32.18 second year are for soil health programming
32.19 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
32.20 103F.06, and for coordination with the
32.21 University of Minnesota Office for Soil
32.22 Health.

32.23 (h) \$3,423,000 the first year and \$3,423,000
32.24 the second year are for natural resources block
32.25 grants to local governments to implement the
32.26 Wetland Conservation Act and shoreland
32.27 management program under Minnesota
32.28 Statutes, chapter 103F, and local water
32.29 management responsibilities under Minnesota
32.30 Statutes, chapter 103B. The board may reduce
32.31 the amount of the natural resources block grant
32.32 to a county by an amount equal to any
32.33 reduction in the county's general services
32.34 allocation to a soil and water conservation
32.35 district from the county's previous year

33.1 allocation when the board determines that the
33.2 reduction was disproportionate.

33.3 (i) \$6,997,000 the first year and \$7,154,000
33.4 the second year are for agency administration
33.5 and operation of the Board of Water and Soil
33.6 Resources.

33.7 (j) The board may shift funds in this section
33.8 and may adjust the technical and
33.9 administrative assistance portion of the funds
33.10 to leverage federal or other nonstate funds or
33.11 to address accountability, oversight, local
33.12 government performance, or high-priority
33.13 needs.

33.14 (k) The appropriations for grants and payments
33.15 in this section are available until June 30,
33.16 2029, except returned grants and payments
33.17 are available for two years after they are
33.18 returned or regranted, whichever is later.

33.19 Funds must be used consistent with the
33.20 purposes of this section. If an appropriation
33.21 for grants in either year is insufficient, the
33.22 appropriation in the other year is available for
33.23 it.

33.24 (l) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
33.25 section 16B.97, grants awarded from
33.26 appropriations in this section are exempt from
33.27 the Department of Administration, Office of
33.28 Grants Management Policy 08-08 Grant
33.29 Payments and 08-10 Grant Monitoring.

33.30	Sec. 5. <u>METROPOLITAN COUNCIL</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>11,740,000</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>11,740,000</u>
33.31	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
33.32		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>		
33.33	<u>General</u>	<u>2,540,000</u>	<u>2,540,000</u>		
33.34	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>9,200,000</u>	<u>9,200,000</u>		

34.1 (a) \$2,540,000 the first year and \$2,540,000

34.2 the second year are for metropolitan-area

34.3 regional parks operation and maintenance

34.4 according to Minnesota Statutes, section

34.5 473.351.

34.6 (b) \$9,200,000 the first year and \$9,200,000

34.7 the second year are from the natural resources

34.8 fund for metropolitan-area regional parks and

34.9 trails maintenance and operations. This

34.10 appropriation is from revenue deposited in the

34.11 natural resources fund under Minnesota

34.12 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (h),

34.13 clause (3).

34.14 **Sec. 6. CONSERVATION CORPS**

34.15 **MINNESOTA AND IOWA** **\$ 1,070,000 \$ 1,070,000**

34.16 Appropriations by Fund

34.17 2026 2027

34.18 General 580,000 580,000

34.19 Natural Resources 490,000 490,000

34.20 Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa may

34.21 receive money appropriated from the natural

34.22 resources fund under this section only as

34.23 provided in an agreement with the

34.24 commissioner of natural resources.

34.25 **Sec. 7. ZOOLOGICAL BOARD** **\$ 14,180,000 \$ 14,532,000**

34.26 Appropriations by Fund

34.27 2026 2027

34.28 General 13,925,000 14,277,000

34.29 Natural Resources 255,000 255,000

34.30 \$255,000 the first year and \$255,000 the

34.31 second year are from the natural resources

34.32 fund from revenue deposited under Minnesota

34.33 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (h),

34.34 clause (5).

35.1	Sec. 8. <u>SCIENCE MUSEUM</u>	\$	<u>1,260,000</u>	\$	<u>1,260,000</u>
35.2	Sec. 9. <u>LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING</u>				
35.3	<u>COMMISSION</u>	\$	<u>198,000</u>	\$	<u>0</u>
35.4	<u>\$198,000 the first year is to facilitate, and the</u>				
35.5	<u>administrative costs of the Sustainable</u>				
35.6	<u>Foraging Task Force. This is a onetime</u>				
35.7	<u>appropriation</u>				
35.8	Sec. 10. <u>CANCELLATION.</u>				
35.9	<u>\$3,915,000 of the unencumbered balance of the general fund appropriation from Laws</u>				
35.10	<u>2022, chapter 95, article 3, section 6, paragraph (b), cancels no later than June 30, 2025.</u>				
35.11	ARTICLE 2				
35.12	ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS				
35.13	Section 1. <u>APPROPRIATIONS.</u>				
35.14	<u>The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies</u>				
35.15	<u>and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the environment</u>				
35.16	<u>and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal</u>				
35.17	<u>years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean</u>				
35.18	<u>that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30,</u>				
35.19	<u>2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year"</u>				
35.20	<u>is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027. Any unencumbered</u>				
35.21	<u>balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or</u>				
35.22	<u>until the end of the appropriation. These are onetime appropriations.</u>				
35.23			<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>		
35.24			<u>Available for the Year</u>		
35.25			<u>Ending June 30</u>		
35.26			<u>2026</u>		<u>2027</u>
35.27	Sec. 2. <u>MINNESOTA RESOURCES</u>				
35.28	Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u>	\$	<u>103,326,000</u>	\$	<u>0</u>
35.29	<u>This appropriation is from the environment</u>				
35.30	<u>and natural resources trust fund. The amounts</u>				
35.31	<u>that may be spent for each purpose are</u>				
35.32	<u>specified in the following subdivisions.</u>				

36.1 **Subd. 2. Definition**

36.2 "Trust fund" means the Minnesota
36.3 environment and natural resources trust fund
36.4 established under the Minnesota Constitution,
36.5 article XI, section 14.

36.6 **Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data**
36.7 **and Information**

22,084,000

-0-

36.8 **(a) Fond du Lac Deer Study - Phase 1**

36.9 \$1,441,000 the first year is from the trust fund
36.10 to the Minnesota State Colleges and
36.11 Universities for Bemidji State University to
36.12 collect baseline deer demographic, movement,
36.13 and habitat-use data before elk restoration to
36.14 better inform management of both elk and deer
36.15 populations on the Fond du Lac Reservation
36.16 and surrounding areas.

36.17 **(b) Are All Walleye Created Equal? Probably**
36.18 **Not.**

36.19 \$298,000 the first year is from the trust fund
36.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
36.21 Minnesota to investigate Minnesota walleye
36.22 strain physiology and disease responses to
36.23 warming water and to build a tool to guide
36.24 adaptive management of walleye in a warming
36.25 climate.

36.26 **(c) Deer Survival Within Minnesota's Densest**
36.27 **Wolf Population**

36.28 \$809,000 the first year is from the trust fund
36.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of
36.30 Minnesota to evaluate how wolves, winter
36.31 severity, and habitat affect deer mortality and
36.32 survival across space and time within the
36.33 Voyageurs region.

36.34 **(d) Evaluating Anticoagulant Rodenticide**
36.35 **Exposure in Minnesota's Carnivores**

37.1 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
37.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
37.3 Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research
37.4 Institute in Duluth to determine anticoagulant
37.5 rodenticide exposure rates and concentrations
37.6 in Minnesota bobcats and fishers, factors
37.7 influencing exposure risk, and negative effects
37.8 of rodenticide exposure on carnivore health.

37.9 **(e) Digitizing the Science Museum of**
37.10 **Minnesota's Mollusk Specimens**

37.11 \$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund
37.12 to the Science Museum of Minnesota to make
37.13 the museum's Minnesota mollusk specimen
37.14 collection available for research and education
37.15 by identifying and organizing all relevant
37.16 specimens and digitizing the museum's data.

37.17 **(f) Integrating Wildlife Objectives in Long-Term**
37.18 **Forest Management Planning**

37.19 \$316,000 the first year is from the trust fund
37.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
37.21 Minnesota to develop a harvest-scheduling
37.22 model that integrates wildlife habitat metrics
37.23 with timber production objectives in the
37.24 forest-planning process for more sustainable
37.25 forest landscape-level outcomes.

37.26 **(g) Surveying Minnesota's Secretive Marsh**
37.27 **Birds**

37.28 \$413,000 the first year is from the trust fund
37.29 to the commissioner of natural resources for
37.30 an agreement with the National Audubon
37.31 Society, Upper Mississippi River office, to
37.32 conduct a breeding marsh bird survey and
37.33 provide state and federal agencies with an
37.34 assessment of marsh bird population status
37.35 and wetland habitat. This appropriation is

38.1 available until June 30, 2029, by which time
38.2 the project must be completed and final
38.3 products delivered.

38.4 **(h) Improving Conservation Outcomes for**
38.5 **Imperiled Wood Turtles**

38.6 \$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund
38.7 to the Minnesota Zoological Society to restore
38.8 imperiled wood turtles by increasing remnant
38.9 populations, quantifying effectiveness of
38.10 habitat management strategies, establishing
38.11 baseline information on disease prevalence,
38.12 and creating a new decision-support tool for
38.13 prioritizing future conservation actions.

38.14 **(i) Maximizing the Impact of Wildlife Movement**
38.15 **Data**

38.16 \$216,000 the first year is from the trust fund
38.17 to the Board of Regents of the University of
38.18 Minnesota to create a centralized and
38.19 accessible database of wildlife movement data
38.20 from prior trust fund-supported studies and
38.21 demonstrate tools biologists can use to analyze
38.22 these data to benefit Minnesota wildlife.

38.23 **(j) Expanding the Statewide Motus Wildlife**
38.24 **Tracking Network**

38.25 \$234,000 the first year is from the trust fund
38.26 to the Minnesota Zoological Society to expand
38.27 the statewide Motus Wildlife Tracking System
38.28 network into southwestern Minnesota and the
38.29 North Shore to guide the conservation of
38.30 imperiled grassland and boreal migratory birds
38.31 and other wildlife. This appropriation may
38.32 also be used to develop outreach and
38.33 interpretive materials for Motus sites.

38.34 **(k) Updating and Sharing Information on**
38.35 **Minnesota's Tick Biodiversity**

39.1 \$186,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.3 Minnesota to collaborate with wildlife
39.4 organizations and community scientists to
39.5 survey the biodiversity and distribution of
39.6 ticks in Minnesota and create a publicly
39.7 accessible GIS dashboard to share results and
39.8 potential disease implications with the public
39.9 and wildlife managers.

39.10 **(l) Small Mammals and Hunter Participation:**
39.11 **Expanded Offal Wildlife Watching**

39.12 \$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.13 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.14 Minnesota to expand and assess hunter
39.15 participation in monitoring scavenger use of
39.16 deer gut piles, assess small mammal
39.17 occurrence and contaminant and disease
39.18 exposure risk at offal sites, and study how
39.19 messaging impacts hunters' use of lead
39.20 ammunition.

39.21 **(m) Green Heron as an Indicator of**
39.22 **Wetland-Dependent Species**

39.23 \$424,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.25 Minnesota to collect data on the year-round
39.26 habitat use and migratory movements of green
39.27 herons, assess potential factors leading to
39.28 population decline, and identify conservation
39.29 strategies to benefit the green heron and other
39.30 wetland-dependent bird species.

39.31 **(n) Visualizing Minnesota's Natural Resources**
39.32 **with CT Scanning**

39.33 \$955,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.34 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.35 Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History,

40.1 to acquire a CT scanner, scan Bell Museum
40.2 organismal specimens, create 3D prints from
40.3 the scans, and share the data and prints through
40.4 environmental education and research
40.5 programs. The CT scanner purchased with this
40.6 appropriation must prioritize use by and be
40.7 made available cost-free to other
40.8 Minnesota-focused researchers for the duration
40.9 of this appropriation. This appropriation may
40.10 also be used for equipment, tools, and supplies
40.11 needed to acquire, install, and use the scanner
40.12 and print 3D models of scanned organisms.
40.13 Net income generated as part of this
40.14 appropriation may be reinvested in the project
40.15 if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the
40.16 work plan as provided under Minnesota
40.17 Statutes, section 116P.10.

40.18 **(o) Mapping Human-Carnivore Conflicts in**
40.19 **Human-Dominated Landscapes**

40.20 \$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.21 to the Board of Regents of the University of
40.22 Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research
40.23 Institute in Duluth to evaluate bear, bobcat,
40.24 and coyote habitat use, activity, and diet in
40.25 Duluth and surrounding areas to map hotspots
40.26 for human-carnivore conflicts and fill
40.27 knowledge gaps to reduce conflicts. This
40.28 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
40.29 by which time the project must be completed
40.30 and final products delivered.

40.31 **(p) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**
40.32 **Management**

40.33 \$1,260,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.34 to the Board of Regents of the University of
40.35 Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to
40.36 continue to produce geologic atlas maps and

41.1 databases to inform management of
41.2 groundwater and surface water. This
41.3 appropriation is to complete Part A, which
41.4 focuses on the properties and distribution of
41.5 earth materials to define aquifer boundaries
41.6 and the connection of aquifers to the land
41.7 surface and surface water resources.

41.8 **(q) Leveraging Statewide Datasets for Native**
41.9 **Rough Fish**

41.10 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
41.11 to the Board of Regents of the University of
41.12 Minnesota to construct species distribution
41.13 models that predict presence and abundance
41.14 of native rough fish species and identify
41.15 potential areas for protection, additional
41.16 monitoring, or restoration across the state. This
41.17 appropriation may also be used to build an
41.18 interactive mapping tool and share results.

41.19 **(r) The Impacts of Climate Change on**
41.20 **Northeastern Minnesota**

41.21 \$772,000 the first year is from the trust fund
41.22 to the commissioner of natural resources for
41.23 an agreement with Friends of the Boundary
41.24 Waters Wilderness to work with collaborators
41.25 to aggregate research, data, and other
41.26 information about the impacts of climate
41.27 change on the habitat and wildlife of
41.28 northeastern Minnesota into a publicly
41.29 available, web-based database. This
41.30 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
41.31 by which time the project must be completed
41.32 and final products delivered.

41.33 **(s) Health and Disease Monitoring in Minnesota**
41.34 **Wildlife**

42.1 \$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund
42.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
42.3 Minnesota, Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic
42.4 Laboratory, to collaborate with wildlife
42.5 rehabilitation organizations and other wildlife
42.6 health professionals throughout Minnesota to
42.7 enhance the state's health and disease
42.8 surveillance, preparedness, and response
42.9 efforts.

42.10 **(t) Affordable Statewide Tracking of Forestry**
42.11 **Fragmentation and Degradation**

42.12 \$331,000 the first year is from the trust fund
42.13 to the Board of Regents of the University of
42.14 Minnesota to merge aircraft and satellite
42.15 LiDAR data to build a model and an
42.16 interactive real-time web dashboard of forest
42.17 boundaries that provides business-ready
42.18 information about statewide forest
42.19 fragmentation and degradation due to human
42.20 activities and natural disasters.

42.21 **(u) Safeguarding Bees While Monitoring**
42.22 **Pollinators and Nesting Habitats**

42.23 \$590,000 the first year is from the trust fund
42.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of
42.25 Minnesota to pioneer low-mortality methods
42.26 for monitoring bee populations and to
42.27 investigate nest habitat materials and
42.28 antimicrobial properties in cooperation with
42.29 community scientists and management
42.30 agencies. This appropriation is available until
42.31 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
42.32 be completed and final products delivered.

42.33 **(v) Expanding the Application of Minnesota's**
42.34 **Wetland Monitoring Data**

43.1 \$312,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.2 to the commissioner of natural resources to
43.3 use existing LiDAR and recurring aerial
43.4 photographs to determine state grassland
43.5 acreage and change over the last twenty years,
43.6 evaluate key drivers of wetland change, and
43.7 use technology to improve Minnesota's
43.8 wetland monitoring.

43.9 **(w) Enhancing the Value of Minnesota Public**
43.10 **Grasslands**

43.11 \$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.12 to the Board of Regents of the University of
43.13 Minnesota to evaluate a combination of
43.14 prescribed fire, brush mowing, and targeted
43.15 conservation grazing to develop ready-to-use
43.16 management strategies for public land
43.17 managers to mitigate woody species
43.18 encroachment and increase biodiversity and
43.19 carbon sequestration in public grasslands.

43.20 **(x) Foundational Precision Agriculture Data to**
43.21 **Reduce Environmental Impacts**

43.22 \$1,255,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.23 to the Board of Regents of the University of
43.24 Minnesota for the West Central Research and
43.25 Outreach Center at Morris to establish data
43.26 collection systems and methods at sentinel
43.27 farm sites, develop and evaluate best
43.28 management practices, and provide outreach
43.29 and training to farmers to encourage adoption
43.30 of precision agriculture technologies that
43.31 reduce fertilizer and chemical use and improve
43.32 water and air quality.

43.33 **(y) Continued Aggregate Resource Mapping**

43.34 \$621,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.35 to the commissioner of natural resources to

44.1 map the aggregate resource potential in the
44.2 state of Minnesota and to make the
44.3 information available in print and electronic
44.4 format to local units of government to support
44.5 informed land-use decisions and resource
44.6 conservation.

44.7 **(z) Advancing Collaborative Wild Rice**
44.8 **Monitoring Program Technologies**

44.9 \$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.10 to the commissioner of natural resources to
44.11 continue efforts to create a framework for
44.12 long-term wild rice monitoring for
44.13 conservation and collaborate with Tribal and
44.14 nongovernmental organizations to collect
44.15 additional data, improve collection and
44.16 analysis methods, and develop a statewide
44.17 estimate of wild rice abundance and coverage.

44.18 **(aa) Conserving Natural Resources by**
44.19 **Advancing Forever Green Agriculture**

44.20 \$2,146,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.21 to the Board of Regents of the University of
44.22 Minnesota for the Forever Green Initiative to
44.23 fund research projects to develop new
44.24 perennial and winter-annual crops to protect
44.25 water, wildlife, soil, other natural resources,
44.26 and the climate. This appropriation is available
44.27 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project
44.28 must be completed and final products
44.29 delivered.

44.30 **(bb) Minnesota's Priority Native Rough Fish:**
44.31 **Gars and Bowfin**

44.32 \$568,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.33 to the Board of Regents of the University of
44.34 Minnesota to develop population dynamics,
44.35 habitat use, and food web models for

45.1 Minnesota gars and bowfins and conduct
45.2 outreach to inform conservation and
45.3 management and serve as a template for study
45.4 of Minnesota's other native rough fish species.

45.5 **(cc) Understanding to Improve Minnesota's**
45.6 **Future Lake Water Quality**

45.7 \$595,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.8 to the Board of Regents of the University of
45.9 Minnesota to use decade-long comprehensive
45.10 lake, watershed, and weather data and
45.11 high-resolution climate models to understand
45.12 lake-specific drivers of water quality and
45.13 predict the effects of future warming on
45.14 harmful algal blooms across Minnesota.

45.15 **(dd) Operationalizing State Zooplankton Data**
45.16 **to Support Lake Health**

45.17 \$423,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.18 to the Board of Regents of the University of
45.19 Minnesota to use long-term monitoring data
45.20 to determine the relationship between
45.21 zooplankton communities and ecosystem
45.22 services, like fisheries health and water
45.23 quality, and develop biotic indices for lake
45.24 health.

45.25 **(ee) Trialing Climate-Ready Woodland Trees**
45.26 **in Urban Areas**

45.27 \$255,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.28 to the Board of Regents of the University of
45.29 Minnesota to demonstrate performance of
45.30 climate-adaptive tree species and study land
45.31 manager and public perceptions of these
45.32 species to identify the best species and risk
45.33 tolerance for future plantings in metropolitan
45.34 areas of Minnesota.

46.1 **(ff) Superior Shores: Protecting Our Great**
46.2 **Lakes Coastal Habitats**

46.3 \$675,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.4 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the
46.5 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to map
46.6 the locations and survey the biological
46.7 diversity and water quality of Lake Superior
46.8 coastal rock pools. This appropriation may
46.9 also be used to develop outreach materials and
46.10 host programs on rock pool understanding and
46.11 conservation.

46.12 **(gg) Recruitment and Fecundity of Minnesota**
46.13 **Moose**

46.14 \$2,007,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.15 to the commissioner of natural resources for
46.16 state and Tribal biologists to work
46.17 collaboratively to estimate survival and
46.18 fecundity of yearling and 2-year-old moose in
46.19 northeast Minnesota to inform future
46.20 management efforts. Of this amount, \$841,000
46.21 is for an agreement with the 1854 Treaty
46.22 Authority. This appropriation is available until
46.23 June 30, 2031, by which time the project must
46.24 be completed and final products delivered.

46.25 **(hh) Fighting Insect Decline: Minnesota**
46.26 **Bumblebees to the Rescue**

46.27 \$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.28 to the Board of Regents of the University of
46.29 Minnesota to map historical and current
46.30 bumblebee distribution and develop an
46.31 identification tool using molecular barcodes
46.32 and an online resource hub to improve
46.33 conservation of Minnesota's native
46.34 bumblebees.

46.35 **(ii) Trace Metals in Municipal Yard Waste and**
46.36 **Compost**

47.1 \$120,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.3 Minnesota to assess trace metal contamination
47.4 from collected residential yard waste, finished
47.5 compost, and compost leachate in municipal
47.6 yard waste recycling programs.

47.7 **(jj) Chronic Wasting Disease Prions in**
47.8 **Minnesota Waters**

47.9 \$322,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.11 Minnesota to evaluate the movement of
47.12 chronic wasting disease in Minnesota waters,
47.13 assess the risk of spread, and share results with
47.14 wildlife and watershed managers.

47.15 **Subd. 4. Water Resources**

11,812,000

-0-

47.16 **(a) Enhancing Our Resources - Rural Health**
47.17 **and Drinking Water**

47.18 \$994,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for
47.20 an agreement with Freshwater Society to
47.21 partner with the Mayo Clinic to educate well
47.22 owners and family health providers about the
47.23 geologic occurrence and risk of arsenic in
47.24 drinking water. This appropriation is also to
47.25 provide free arsenic testing to well owners in
47.26 southeast Minnesota.

47.27 **(b) Restoration and Outreach for Minnesota's**
47.28 **Native Mussels**

47.29 \$1,258,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.30 to the commissioner of natural resources to
47.31 propagate, rear, and restore native freshwater
47.32 mussel populations and the ecosystem services
47.33 they provide to Minnesota waters; to evaluate
47.34 reintroduction success; and to inform the
47.35 public on mussels and mussel conservation.

48.1 **(c) Pristine to Green: Toxic Blooms Threaten**
48.2 **Northern Lakes**

48.3 \$1,362,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.4 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the
48.5 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to
48.6 evaluate drivers that contribute to the
48.7 formation of nuisance and toxic algal blooms
48.8 in relatively pristine and protected lakes across
48.9 Minnesota.

48.10 **(d) Training Lake Communities to Track**
48.11 **Chloride and Algae**

48.12 \$274,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.13 to the Board of Regents of the University of
48.14 Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant
48.15 college program in Duluth to develop and train
48.16 a network of community-based volunteers to
48.17 track chloride and harmful algal blooms in
48.18 rural Minnesota lakes.

48.19 **(e) Clean Sweep Solution to Nonpoint Source**
48.20 **Pollution**

48.21 \$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.22 to the Board of Regents of the University of
48.23 Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to
48.24 enhance Clean Sweep programs, identify the
48.25 pollutants present in street-sweeping materials,
48.26 explore material reuse options, and quantify
48.27 benefits of enhanced street sweeping. This
48.28 appropriation may also be used to coordinate
48.29 county and regional collaborations, develop
48.30 resources, and provide training to increase
48.31 targeted street-sweeping practices to reduce
48.32 nonpoint source pollution to Minnesota's water
48.33 resources.

48.34 **(f) Cyanotoxins in Minnesota Lakes: The Role**
48.35 **of Sunlight**

49.1 \$220,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.3 Minnesota to quantify degradation of
49.4 cyanobacterial toxins by sunlight to understand
49.5 how increasing frequency of harmful algal
49.6 blooms and changing environmental
49.7 conditions influence toxin persistence in
49.8 natural waters.

49.9 **(g) Enhancing Degradation of Emerging**
49.10 **Contaminants via Microbial Starvation**

49.11 \$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.12 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.13 Minnesota to study how wastewater treatment
49.14 systems can be improved to more effectively
49.15 biodegrade mixtures of pharmaceuticals,
49.16 pesticides, and other contaminants of emerging
49.17 concern and protect Minnesota's water
49.18 resources.

49.19 **(h) Soil Health Management for Water Storage**

49.20 \$454,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.21 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.22 Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to
49.23 conduct on-farm and model-based research
49.24 and develop guidance for watershed planners
49.25 and land managers to effectively use soil
49.26 health management to achieve water storage
49.27 and water quality goals.

49.28 **(i) Predicting Contaminant Movement in**
49.29 **Minnesota's Fractured Aquifers**

49.30 \$650,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.31 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.32 Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to
49.33 develop a software program that predicts the
49.34 fate and movement of contaminants, such as

50.1 PFAS, chloride, nitrate, and pathogens, in

50.2 Minnesota's fractured aquifers.

50.3 **(j) Documentation and Toxicity of Microplastics**
50.4 **in Urban Ecosystems**

50.5 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund

50.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of

50.7 Minnesota to research how land use and

50.8 toxicity affect the accumulation of

50.9 microplastics and associated contaminants of

50.10 concern in stormwater ponds and the wildlife

50.11 that use stormwater ponds.

50.12 **(k) Terminating PFAS-Type Pesticides via**
50.13 **Enzyme Cocktails**

50.14 \$297,000 the first year is from the trust fund

50.15 to the Board of Regents of the University of

50.16 Minnesota to evaluate the ability of selected

50.17 enzymes and combinations of enzymes to

50.18 biodegrade per- and polyfluoroalkyl

50.19 substances (PFAS) found in pesticides and to

50.20 design a pilot-scale biofilter for effective

50.21 elimination of PFAS from water.

50.22 **(l) Addressing 21st Century Challenges for the**
50.23 **St. Croix**

50.24 \$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund

50.25 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the

50.26 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to

50.27 develop a watershed model to identify

50.28 potential hydrologic and water quality impacts

50.29 to the lower St. Croix River over the next 75

50.30 years and inform future planning and

50.31 management in the watershed.

50.32 **(m) Impact of Statewide Conservation Practices**
50.33 **on Stream Biodiversity**

50.34 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund

50.35 to the Board of Regents of the University of

51.1 Minnesota to use existing monitoring data to
51.2 evaluate the effects of wetlands and riparian
51.3 buffers on stream and river biodiversity and
51.4 biological condition and develop tools and
51.5 materials to inform the public and natural
51.6 resource managers.

51.7 **(n) Modeling the Future Mississippi River Gorge**

51.8 \$427,000 the first year is from the trust fund
51.9 to the Board of Regents of the University of
51.10 Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to
51.11 construct a reduced-scale physical model of
51.12 Mississippi River Pool 1, Lock & Dam 1, and
51.13 adjacent upstream and downstream reaches;
51.14 analyze water flow and sediment movement
51.15 under various pool management strategies;
51.16 and share results with the public to inform
51.17 decisions on the future management of the
51.18 lock and dam.

51.19 **(o) Highly Efficient Nutrient Removal**
51.20 **Technology for Agricultural Drainage**

51.21 \$453,000 the first year is from the trust fund
51.22 to the Board of Regents of the University of
51.23 Minnesota to conduct lab- and field-scale tests
51.24 of a novel bioreactor technology for removing
51.25 nutrients from agricultural drainage and
51.26 disseminate results to farmers and the public.

51.27 **(p) Citizen Scientists Capture Microplastic**
51.28 **Pollution Around State**

51.29 \$419,000 the first year is from the trust fund
51.30 to the Board of Regents of the University of
51.31 Minnesota to develop adaptable microplastic
51.32 sampling and detection methods, develop a
51.33 public-access database, and leverage citizen
51.34 scientists to survey microplastic pollution

- 52.1 throughout the state to allow for data-driven
52.2 risk management decisions and solutions.
- 52.3 **(q) Healthy Native Prairie Microbiomes for**
52.4 **Cleaner Water**
- 52.5 \$468,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.7 Minnesota to identify and characterize prairie
52.8 plant microbiomes and study the potential of
52.9 native prairie microbes to provide nitrogen for
52.10 agricultural crops and reduce industrial
52.11 fertilizer use and nitrate contamination of
52.12 water.
- 52.13 **(r) Wastewater Chloride Reduction through**
52.14 **Industrial Source Reduction Assistance**
- 52.15 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.16 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.17 Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical
52.18 Assistance Program to provide technical
52.19 assistance to businesses to cost-effectively
52.20 reduce industrial and commercial chloride use
52.21 in communities with high chloride effluent
52.22 concentrations.
- 52.23 **(s) Pilot Water Budget Framework for**
52.24 **Managing Water Withdrawals**
- 52.25 \$198,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.26 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.27 Minnesota to develop a pilot water budget
52.28 framework to identify sensitive areas in
52.29 Minnesota where net water withdrawals have
52.30 a significant impact on surface water and
52.31 groundwater.
- 52.32 **(t) Biofilm Mediated Destruction of PFAS in**
52.33 **Groundwater**
- 52.34 \$1,336,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.35 to the commissioner of natural resources for

53.1 an agreement with Freshwater Society to
53.2 develop biofilm treatment technology and
53.3 demonstrate field-scale removal of per- and
53.4 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from
53.5 contaminated groundwater. A fiscal
53.6 management plan must be approved in the
53.7 work plan before any trust fund money is
53.8 spent.

53.9 **(u) Impact of Microplastics on Wastewater**
53.10 **Treatment in Minnesota**

53.11 \$506,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.12 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.13 Minnesota to quantify the abundance of
53.14 microplastics in wastewater treatment plants
53.15 in Minnesota, determine how microplastics
53.16 affect wastewater treatment plant performance,
53.17 and evaluate how different wastewater
53.18 treatment processes alter microplastics.

53.19 **(v) Portable Arsenic and Nitrate Detector for**
53.20 **Well Water**

53.21 \$358,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.22 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.23 Minnesota to develop a small, cheap, and
53.24 easy-to-use system to detect arsenic and nitrate
53.25 in well water and determine whether well
53.26 water is safe to drink.

53.27 **(w) Recovering Salts from Highly Saline**
53.28 **Wastewater**

53.29 \$272,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.30 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.31 Minnesota to develop a method to recover
53.32 useful salts from concentrated saline
53.33 wastewater to increase the economic
53.34 sustainability of high water-recovery

54.1	<u>softening, sulfate removal, and industrial</u>		
54.2	<u>wastewater treatment.</u>		
54.3	<u>Subd. 5. Environmental Education</u>	<u>11,965,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
54.4	<u>(a) Eagle's Nest: Where the World Becomes</u>		
54.5	<u>Your Classroom</u>		
54.6	<u>\$130,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
54.7	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
54.8	<u>an agreement with Glacial Hills Elementary</u>		
54.9	<u>School to create interactive natural playground</u>		
54.10	<u>and landscaping features for children and</u>		
54.11	<u>provide environmental education programming</u>		
54.12	<u>outside of regular school hours.</u>		
54.13	<u>(b) Advancing Equity in Environmental</u>		
54.14	<u>Education</u>		
54.15	<u>\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
54.16	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
54.17	<u>an agreement with Camp Fire Minnesota to</u>		
54.18	<u>provide needs-based scholarships for</u>		
54.19	<u>Minnesota youth to attend</u>		
54.20	<u>state-standards-aligned environmental and</u>		
54.21	<u>outdoor education programs.</u>		
54.22	<u>(c) Teacher Field School - Phase 2: Increasing</u>		
54.23	<u>Impact</u>		
54.24	<u>\$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
54.25	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
54.26	<u>an agreement with Hamline University to</u>		
54.27	<u>continue the teacher field school program that</u>		
54.28	<u>trains teachers how to connect academic</u>		
54.29	<u>content with environmental stewardship,</u>		
54.30	<u>natural resource conservation, and outdoor</u>		
54.31	<u>recreation. This appropriation is also to pilot</u>		
54.32	<u>a train-the-trainer model for nature-based</u>		
54.33	<u>education practices.</u>		
54.34	<u>(d) Creating Future Leaders in Outdoor and</u>		
54.35	<u>Environmental Leadership</u>		

55.1 \$330,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.2 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota
55.3 State Colleges and Universities for North
55.4 Hennepin Community College to collaborate
55.5 with K-12 education, higher education, and
55.6 outdoor organizations to increase
55.7 environmental education, leadership,
55.8 internship, and career opportunities for
55.9 underrepresented college and high school
55.10 students.

55.11 **(e) Engaging our Diverse Public in**
55.12 **Environmental Stewardship - Phase 2**

55.13 \$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for
55.15 an agreement with Great River Greening to
55.16 increase participation in natural resources
55.17 conservation and restoration efforts and
55.18 careers through volunteer, internship, and
55.19 youth engagement activities, with a focus on
55.20 diverse audiences that more accurately reflect
55.21 local demographic and socioeconomic
55.22 conditions in Minnesota.

55.23 **(f) Outdoor School for Minnesota K-12 Students**

55.24 \$3,992,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.25 to the commissioner of natural resources for
55.26 an agreement with Osprey Wilds
55.27 Environmental Learning Center to partner with
55.28 four other accredited residential environmental
55.29 learning centers in Minnesota to provide
55.30 needs-based scholarships to K-12 students
55.31 statewide for immersive multiday
55.32 environmental learning experiences.

55.33 **(g) Statewide Environmental Education via PBS**
55.34 **Outdoor Series**

56.1 \$415,000 the first year is from the trust fund
56.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
56.3 an agreement with Pioneer Public
56.4 Broadcasting Service to produce, distribute,
56.5 and promote new episodes of a statewide
56.6 public television series that inspires
56.7 Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and
56.8 to restore and protect the state's natural
56.9 resources.

56.10 **(h) Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin Conservation Crew**
56.11 **Program**

56.12 \$678,000 the first year is from the trust fund
56.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for
56.14 an agreement with Conservation Corps
56.15 Minnesota & Iowa to expand a conservation
56.16 corps program developed to provide natural
56.17 resources career development opportunities
56.18 for indigenous young adults and cultivate an
56.19 enduring action-based conservation ethic
56.20 through the integration of traditional
56.21 knowledge, nature immersion, and the
56.22 implementation of conservation and
56.23 restoration practices in the field.

56.24 **(i) Reuse for the Future: Youth Education and**
56.25 **Engagement**

56.26 \$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund
56.27 to the commissioner of natural resources for
56.28 an agreement with Reuse Minnesota to provide
56.29 curriculum-based opportunities for students
56.30 to learn about the reuse economy, reuse skills,
56.31 and other opportunities to reduce waste. This
56.32 appropriation may also be used to align
56.33 materials to state standards and translate
56.34 materials to additional languages.

56.35 **(j) River Bend Nature Center Outdoor Diversity**
56.36 **Initiative**

57.1 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
57.3 an agreement with River Bend Nature Center
57.4 to lead a coalition of educational partners and
57.5 culturally specific organizations to expand
57.6 recognized environmental education
57.7 curriculum and provide conservation-based
57.8 career exploration and job placement
57.9 opportunities for diverse communities in
57.10 southern Minnesota.

57.11 **(k) Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer**

57.12 \$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for
57.14 an agreement with the Phyllis Wheatley
57.15 Community Center to provide environmental
57.16 education to Minneapolis urban youth through
57.17 the Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer
57.18 program that fosters connections to nature and
57.19 encourages responsible stewardship of our
57.20 natural resources.

57.21 **(l) Adult Outdoor Education for Minnesota's**
57.22 **Underrepresented Communities**

57.23 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.24 to the commissioner of natural resources for
57.25 an agreement with Baztec Fishing & Outdoors
57.26 to create fishing and hunting education,
57.27 training, and opportunities for underserved
57.28 and underrepresented communities in
57.29 Minnesota. All fishing tackle purchased with
57.30 this appropriation must be lead-free. A fiscal
57.31 management plan must be approved in the
57.32 work plan before any trust fund money is
57.33 spent.

57.34 **(m) Minnesota's Road Map for Sustainability**
57.35 **and Climate Education**

58.1 \$491,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.3 an agreement with Climate Generation to
58.4 convene community gatherings and partner
58.5 with institutions and organizations across the
58.6 education sector to develop a road map on
58.7 how to build capacity for equitable and
58.8 accessible sustainability and climate education
58.9 programs that align with the Minnesota
58.10 Climate Action Framework.

58.11 **(n) ESTEP 2.0: Earth Science Teacher**
58.12 **Education Project**

58.13 \$643,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.15 an agreement with Minnesota Science
58.16 Teachers Association to provide professional
58.17 development for Minnesota science teachers
58.18 statewide in environmental and earth science
58.19 content to strengthen environmental education
58.20 in schools.

58.21 **(o) Engaging Latine Communities in**
58.22 **Conservation and Preservation**

58.23 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.24 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.25 an agreement with Comunidades Organizando
58.26 el Poder y la Accion Latina to use
58.27 community-based partnerships and
58.28 communications platforms to host outdoor
58.29 events and conduct educational outreach
58.30 focused on Latine and BIPOC communities
58.31 about the need to protect Minnesota's
58.32 environment and natural resources.

58.33 **(p) Inclusive Wildlife Engagement in Classrooms**
58.34 **and Communities**

59.1 \$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
59.3 the nongame wildlife program to provide three
59.4 wildlife conservation, action-based outdoor
59.5 educational opportunities to engage
59.6 needs-based schools, young adults, and
59.7 communities underrepresented in natural
59.8 resources through the Bird by Bird,
59.9 Empowering Pathways into Conservation, and
59.10 Community Science programs.

59.11 **(q) Activating Youth and Family Environmental**
59.12 **Stewardship through Raptors**

59.13 \$228,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.14 to the Board of Regents of the University of
59.15 Minnesota for the Raptor Center to deliver
59.16 standards-based environmental education
59.17 featuring live raptors through school programs
59.18 and community events across Minnesota.

59.19 **(r) Moving Minnesota toward a Lead-Free**
59.20 **Sporting Future**

59.21 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.22 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota
59.23 State Colleges and Universities for Bemidji
59.24 State University to conduct educational
59.25 outreach directed at hunters and anglers to
59.26 increase awareness of lead-free options for
59.27 big-game hunting, small-game hunting, and
59.28 fishing as a means of reducing wildlife
59.29 exposure to lead.

59.30 **(s) Science Centers Supporting Northern Boys**
59.31 **and Girls Clubs**

59.32 \$1,091,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.33 to the commissioner of natural resources for
59.34 an agreement with the Headwaters Science
59.35 Center to expand access to environmental

60.1 science education in northern Minnesota and
60.2 leverage partnerships between rural and urban
60.3 organizations to deliver culturally relevant,
60.4 hands-on learning experiences to underserved
60.5 students.

60.6 **Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive**
60.7 **Species**

6,713,000

-0-

60.8 **(a) Aquatic Invasive Species: From Problems to**
60.9 **Real-World Solutions**

60.10 \$5,771,000 the first year is from the trust fund
60.11 to the Board of Regents of the University of
60.12 Minnesota for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive
60.13 Species Research Center to conduct
60.14 high-priority projects aimed at solving
60.15 Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems
60.16 using rigorous science and a collaborative
60.17 process. This appropriation may also be used
60.18 to deliver research findings to end users
60.19 through strategic communication and outreach.
60.20 This appropriation is available until June 30,
60.21 2029, by which time the project must be
60.22 completed and final products delivered.

60.23 **(b) Optimizing Nonnative Cattail Treatment**
60.24 **Effectiveness in Prairie Wetlands**

60.25 \$942,000 the first year is from the trust fund
60.26 to the commissioner of natural resources to
60.27 compare the effectiveness of invasive cattail
60.28 treatment methods and provide
60.29 recommendations for managers to maximize
60.30 benefits of conservation money for native
60.31 wetland plants and wildlife. This appropriation
60.32 is available until June 30, 2031, by which time
60.33 the project must be completed and final
60.34 products delivered.

61.1 **Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and**
61.2 **Renewable Energy**

11,744,000

-0-

61.3 **(a) Protecting Coldwater Fish Habitat in**
61.4 **Minnesota Lakes**

61.5 \$561,000 the first year is from the trust fund
61.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
61.7 Minnesota to identify lake-specific watershed
61.8 protection targets and management practices
61.9 needed to maintain coldwater fish habitat
61.10 threatened by warming temperatures and
61.11 increasing extreme rain events and to integrate
61.12 this information into conservation planning
61.13 tools.

61.14 **(b) Agrivoltaics 2.0 Building a Resilient E-Farm**

61.15 \$535,000 the first year is from the trust fund
61.16 to the Board of Regents of the University of
61.17 Minnesota for the West Central Research and
61.18 Outreach Center at Morris to evaluate
61.19 emerging solar system designs and solar
61.20 technology integration with vegetable and
61.21 livestock production systems to maximize
61.22 energy production and benefits to farmers.

61.23 **(c) Pine Needles Reveal Past and Present**
61.24 **Airborne PFAS**

61.25 \$550,000 the first year is from the trust fund
61.26 to the commissioner of the Pollution Control
61.27 Agency to use current and historic pine
61.28 needles as a low-cost method to assess
61.29 statewide per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
61.30 (PFAS) levels in ambient air.

61.31 **(d) Facilitated Transport Hybrid Membranes**
61.32 **for CO₂ Separation**

61.33 \$1,050,000 the first year is from the trust fund
61.34 to the Board of Regents of the University of
61.35 Minnesota to develop and test advanced

62.1 polymeric membranes for capture and reuse
62.2 of carbon dioxide at industrial sources.

62.3 **(e) Renewable Energy Conversion for Farm**
62.4 **Diesel and Ammonia**

62.5 \$726,000 the first year is from the trust fund
62.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
62.7 Minnesota to develop a novel charge-swing
62.8 catalytic condenser that will enable the
62.9 low-cost production of hydrogen from water
62.10 using rural electricity for on-the-farm energy
62.11 storage or renewable diesel and ammonia
62.12 fertilizer.

62.13 **(f) Innovative Solution to Renewable Energy**
62.14 **from Food Waste**

62.15 \$5,167,000 the first year is from the trust fund
62.16 to the commissioner of natural resources for
62.17 an agreement with the Ramsey/Washington
62.18 Recycling and Energy Board to provide
62.19 reimbursements to offset the processing fees
62.20 for the public to divert organic materials from
62.21 landfills and produce renewable natural gas
62.22 through anaerobic digestion and sequestration
62.23 of carbon into biochar. Net income generated
62.24 as part of this appropriation may be reinvested
62.25 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
62.26 approved in the work plan as provided under
62.27 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This
62.28 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
62.29 by which time the project must be completed
62.30 and final products delivered.

62.31 **(g) Fueling the Future: Decarbonizing Regional**
62.32 **Transportation Project**

62.33 \$3,155,000 the first year is from the trust fund
62.34 to the commissioner of natural resources for
62.35 an agreement with the city of St. Cloud to

63.1 install a green hydrogen production, storage,
63.2 and fueling station that provides a renewable,
63.3 carbon-free, alternate fuel source to
63.4 decarbonize community transportation and
63.5 manufacturing sectors. This appropriation may
63.6 also be used to convert city fleet and public
63.7 transit vehicles to hydrogen fuel. Net income
63.8 generated as part of this appropriation may be
63.9 reinvested in the project if a plan for
63.10 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
63.11 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
63.12 116P.10. This appropriation is available until
63.13 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
63.14 be completed and final products delivered.

63.15 **Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land,**
63.16 **Water, and Habitat**

12,188,000

-0-

63.17 **(a) Minnesota PlantWatch: Community**
63.18 **Scientists Conserving Rare Plants**

63.19 \$1,086,000 the first year is from the trust fund.
63.20 Of this amount, \$518,000 is to the Board of
63.21 Regents of the University of Minnesota for
63.22 the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and
63.23 \$568,000 is to the commissioner of natural
63.24 resources to enhance the Minnesota
63.25 PlantWatch program to improve the
63.26 conservation of Minnesota's natural resources
63.27 and support community scientist-driven rare
63.28 plant surveys and seed banking and
63.29 preservation.

63.30 **(b) Grassland Restoration for Pollinator**
63.31 **Conservation and Demonstration**

63.32 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
63.33 to the Board of Regents of the University of
63.34 Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape
63.35 Arboretum to restore a degraded pasture to
63.36 grassland as a model for climate-resilient

64.1 pollinator habitat; provide interpretive signage,
64.2 education, and community engagement; and
64.3 conduct species monitoring. This appropriation
64.4 is available until June 30, 2031, by which time
64.5 the project must be completed and final
64.6 products delivered.

64.7 **(c) Planning for Long-Term Natural Resources**
64.8 **Protection in Hennepin County**

64.9 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
64.10 to the commissioner of natural resources for
64.11 an agreement with Hennepin County to
64.12 develop a publicly available interactive map
64.13 of natural systems, create a centralized
64.14 clearinghouse of data and best practices
64.15 toolkit, and provide ongoing technical
64.16 assistance for local communities with limited
64.17 resources to manage complex natural resources
64.18 challenges. Net income generated as part of
64.19 this appropriation may be reinvested in the
64.20 project if a plan for reinvestment is approved
64.21 in the work plan as provided under Minnesota
64.22 Statutes, section 116P.10.

64.23 **(d) Native Forages: Growing Drought and**
64.24 **Climate Resiliency**

64.25 \$2,254,000 the first year is from the trust fund
64.26 to the commissioner of natural resources for
64.27 an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to
64.28 collaborate with livestock farmers to establish
64.29 native grassland wildlife habitat and enhance
64.30 native forages on working lands to improve
64.31 ecological, economic, and climate resiliency.
64.32 Notwithstanding subdivision 13, paragraph
64.33 (e), restoration efforts may be undertaken on
64.34 private lands but must occur on properties
64.35 enrolled in long-term agreements to protect
64.36 and maintain the restored areas in

65.1 conformance with approved restoration and
65.2 grazing plans as approved in the work plan.
65.3 This appropriation is available until June 30,
65.4 2031, by which time the project must be
65.5 completed and final products delivered.

65.6 **(e) Accelerated Genetic Migration of Bur Oak**
65.7 **- Ten-Year Data**

65.8 \$223,000 the first year is from the trust fund
65.9 to the commissioner of natural resources for
65.10 an agreement with Great River Greening to
65.11 assess the growth and survival of previously
65.12 restored bur oak ecotypes to inform techniques
65.13 for improved climate resiliency. This
65.14 appropriation may also be used to enhance the
65.15 previous plantings and disseminate results of
65.16 the study to practitioners, students,
65.17 landowners, and others. This appropriation is
65.18 available until June 30, 2029, by which time
65.19 the project must be completed and final
65.20 products delivered.

65.21 **(f) Superior Hiking Trail Bridge, Boardwalk,**
65.22 **and Trailhead Renewal**

65.23 \$532,000 the first year is from the trust fund
65.24 to the commissioner of natural resources for
65.25 an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail
65.26 Association to renew Superior Hiking Trail
65.27 bridges, boardwalks, and trailheads to increase
65.28 user safety, improve the user experience, and
65.29 protect adjacent land and water.

65.30 **(g) Mississippi Gateway Shoreline Stabilization**
65.31 **and Fishing Improvements**

65.32 \$735,000 the first year is from the trust fund
65.33 to the commissioner of natural resources for
65.34 an agreement with Three Rivers Park District
65.35 to improve water quality and shoreline fishing

66.1 access through shoreline stabilization and
66.2 construction of accessible trails and fishing
66.3 platforms within Mississippi Gateway
66.4 Regional Park.

66.5 **(h) Phytoremediation of PFAS from Soil**

66.6 \$1,066,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.7 to the Board of Regents of the University of
66.8 Minnesota to use interdisciplinary research in
66.9 biology, nanotechnology, chemistry, and
66.10 genetic engineering to develop technology to
66.11 remediate soils contaminated with per- and
66.12 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). This
66.13 appropriation may also be used to convene
66.14 stakeholders to coordinate and advance PFAS
66.15 remediation research in Minnesota. This
66.16 appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes,
66.17 section 116P.10.

66.18 **(i) Removing Mercury from Minnesota Waters**

66.19 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
66.21 Minnesota to test and refine a biotechnology
66.22 approach to remove mercury from the food
66.23 chain in Minnesota's lakes and rivers and
66.24 potentially make fish consumption in
66.25 Minnesota safer. This appropriation is subject
66.26 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

66.27 **(j) Evaluating Native Seed Mixes for Grazing**

66.28 \$208,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.29 to the commissioner of natural resources for
66.30 an agreement with Restoravore to assess the
66.31 use of native hay and pasture mixes to benefit
66.32 biodiversity, soil health, and Minnesota
66.33 farmers. A fiscal management plan must be

67.1 approved in the work plan before any trust
67.2 fund money is spent.

67.3 **(k) Improving Minnesota Forest Health via**
67.4 **Post-Duff-Burning Soil Analysis**

67.5 \$646,000 the first year is from the trust fund
67.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
67.7 Minnesota to thoroughly investigate the impact
67.8 of forest floor duff fires on soil dynamics,
67.9 nutrient cycles, invasive shrubs, earthworms,
67.10 and root systems to improve fire management
67.11 for Minnesota's forest preservation. This
67.12 appropriation may also be used to develop an
67.13 outdoor lab-scale duff-burning device.

67.14 **(l) Minnesota Riverbank Protection and Parks**
67.15 **Improvements**

67.16 \$1,400,000 the first year is from the trust fund
67.17 to the commissioner of natural resources for
67.18 an agreement with the city of Shakopee to
67.19 restore Minnesota River shoreline at Huber
67.20 Park by regrading and establishing native
67.21 vegetation to protect fish and wildlife habitat,
67.22 reduce erosion, and provide public access to
67.23 the river. This appropriation is available until
67.24 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
67.25 be completed and final products delivered.

67.26 **(m) Restoration at Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento**
67.27 **Nature Sanctuary**

67.28 \$669,000 the first year is from the trust fund
67.29 to the commissioner of natural resources for
67.30 an agreement with the Lower Phalen Creek
67.31 Project to conduct citizen-science natural
67.32 resource data collection events, recruit and
67.33 train volunteer site stewards, and enhance
67.34 habitat at Wakan Tipi and the Bruce Vento
67.35 Nature Sanctuary.

68.1 **(n) Promoting Pollinators on Corporate**
68.2 **Campuses**

68.3 \$547,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.4 to the commissioner of natural resources for
68.5 an agreement with the University of St.
68.6 Thomas to use experimental bee lawn
68.7 installations on corporate campuses, combined
68.8 with landscape modeling and employee
68.9 surveys, to determine potential ecological,
68.10 economic, and societal benefits of widespread
68.11 commercial lawn habitat transformation. This
68.12 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
68.13 by which time the project must be completed
68.14 and final products delivered.

68.15 **(o) Riparian Area Adaptation Strategy for**
68.16 **Southeast Minnesota**

68.17 \$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.18 to the commissioner of natural resources for
68.19 an agreement with The Nature Conservancy,
68.20 in partnership with the University of
68.21 Minnesota, to assess an alternative adaptation
68.22 strategy to restore riparian areas by excavating
68.23 and planting riparian shrubs to reconnect the
68.24 floodplains. This appropriation may also be
68.25 used for outreach materials and educational
68.26 activities.

68.27 **(p) Minnehaha Park South Plateau Oak Savanna**
68.28 **Restoration**

68.29 \$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.30 to the commissioner of natural resources for
68.31 an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and
68.32 Recreation Board to improve wildlife habitat,
68.33 enhance recreational experiences, and restore
68.34 an area of urban parkland in Minnehaha Park
68.35 to an oak savanna ecosystem. This
68.36 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,

69.1 by which time the project must be completed
69.2 and final products delivered.

69.3 **(q) Tree Protection for Minnesota's Tamarack**
69.4 **Against Larch Beetle**

69.5 \$321,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
69.7 Minnesota to evaluate new insect management
69.8 techniques and key factors for predicting
69.9 future infestations to protect and preserve trees
69.10 from native eastern larch beetle infestations.

69.11 **(r) Shoreline Restoration and Enhancement at**
69.12 **Minneapolis Lakes**

69.13 \$819,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for
69.15 an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and
69.16 Recreation Board to restore and enhance areas
69.17 of turf-dominated, eroding, and low habitat
69.18 value lakeshore that impacts the water quality
69.19 of the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes.

69.20 **(s) Developing Markets for CLC Crops**

69.21 \$450,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.22 to the commissioner of agriculture to provide
69.23 grants to organizations in Minnesota to
69.24 develop enterprises, supply chains, and
69.25 markets for continuous living cover crops and
69.26 cropping systems in the early stage of
69.27 commercial development. This appropriation
69.28 is exempt from the income repayment
69.29 requirements in Minnesota Statutes,
69.30 section 116P.10, paragraph (c).

69.31 **Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and**
69.32 **Recreation**

19,553,000

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69.33 **(a) Cannon River Preservation and Access**

70.1 \$2,717,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.3 an agreement with Dakota County to
70.4 rehabilitate the historic Waterford Bridge for
70.5 the Mill Towns State Trail; restore and
70.6 enhance upland shoreline, forest, and prairie
70.7 habitats; and develop a trailhead and
70.8 recreational access to the Cannon River.

70.9 **(b) Mesabi Trail: Aurora to Hoyt Lakes**

70.10 \$1,325,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.11 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.12 an agreement with St. Louis and Lake
70.13 Counties Regional Railroad Authority for
70.14 environmental review and permitting and to
70.15 engineer, design, and construct a segment of
70.16 the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection
70.17 of Main Street and Forestry Road in Aurora
70.18 toward Hoyt Lakes.

70.19 **(c) RTA Maintenance Trail Stabilization Project**

70.20 \$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.21 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.22 an agreement with the city of Eden Prairie to
70.23 construct a retaining wall and restore adjacent
70.24 remnant prairie along the maintenance trail at
70.25 Richard T. Anderson (RTA) Conservation
70.26 Area to mitigate ongoing erosion and protect
70.27 native habitat and plant communities.

70.28 **(d) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant**
70.29 **Programs**

70.30 \$4,769,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.31 to the commissioner of natural resources to
70.32 solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching
70.33 grants for local parks, trail connections, and
70.34 natural and scenic areas under Minnesota
70.35 Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is

71.1 for local nature-based recreation, connections
71.2 to regional and state natural areas, and
71.3 recreation facilities and may not be used for
71.4 athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts,
71.5 and playgrounds. This appropriation is exempt
71.6 from subdivision 13, paragraph (k).

71.7 **(e) Boardwalk Over Boggy Land for**
71.8 **Recreational Purposes**

71.9 \$148,000 the first year is from the trust fund
71.10 to the commissioner of natural resources for
71.11 an agreement with the city of Battle Lake to
71.12 design and construct a boardwalk over city
71.13 land to protect wetlands and to increase
71.14 community access to natural areas and wildlife
71.15 habitat.

71.16 **(f) Lake Zumbro Park Water Access and Site**
71.17 **Improvements**

71.18 \$1,978,000 the first year is from the trust fund
71.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for
71.20 an agreement with Olmsted County to enhance
71.21 the Lake Zumbro Park water access and the
71.22 federal Americans with Disabilities Act
71.23 (ADA) accessibility for boating, fishing, and
71.24 viewing, while creating new user-friendly and
71.25 accessible amenities for individuals and
71.26 families. This may include new fishing docks
71.27 or piers, restored shoreline, improved parking,
71.28 and ADA accessible access to an existing
71.29 kayak and canoe launch.

71.30 **(g) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA)**
71.31 **Biodiversity Protection**

71.32 \$1,104,000 the first year is from the trust fund
71.33 to the commissioner of natural resources for
71.34 the scientific and natural area program to
71.35 conserve Minnesota's most unique places and

72.1 rare species and strategically acquire lands
72.2 that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota
72.3 Statutes, section 86A.05. This appropriation
72.4 is available until June 30, 2029, by which time
72.5 the project must be completed and final
72.6 products delivered.

72.7 **(h) Scandia Gateway Trail Connection:**
72.8 **Recreation, Wetlands, and Environmental**
72.9 **Education**

72.10 \$907,000 the first year is from the trust fund
72.11 to the commissioner of natural resources for
72.12 an agreement with the city of Scandia to
72.13 engineer, design, and construct a bike and
72.14 pedestrian trail to connect recreational,
72.15 cultural, and environmental resources in
72.16 Scandia to the state Gateway Trail. This
72.17 appropriation is also to create and install
72.18 educational interpretive signage about
72.19 wetlands and rain gardens near the trail.

72.20 **(i) Lake Byllesby Regional Park Restoration and**
72.21 **Recreation**

72.22 \$1,120,000 the first year is from the trust fund
72.23 to the commissioner of natural resources for
72.24 an agreement with Dakota County to restore
72.25 prairie, woodland, and shoreline habitat and
72.26 design and install trails, birding and picnic
72.27 areas, and other recreational amenities to
72.28 enhance the visitor experience and stewardship
72.29 at Lake Byllesby Regional Park. This
72.30 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
72.31 by which time the project must be completed
72.32 and final products delivered.

72.33 **(j) Thompson County Park Restoration and**
72.34 **Accessibility Improvements**

72.35 \$867,000 the first year is from the trust fund
72.36 to the commissioner of natural resources for

73.1 an agreement with Dakota County to develop
73.2 a pollinator promenade with accessible natural
73.3 surface paths, native plantings, and interpretive
73.4 signage at Thompson County Park. This
73.5 appropriation may also be used to conduct
73.6 stream restoration to enhance visitor
73.7 experience and provide stormwater storage,
73.8 sediment and nutrient reduction, and increased
73.9 habitat and species diversity within the park.
73.10 This appropriation is available until June 30,
73.11 2029, by which time the project must be
73.12 completed and final products delivered.

73.13 **(k) Thom Storm Chalet and Outdoor Recreation**
73.14 **Center**

73.15 \$2,312,000 the first year is from the trust fund
73.16 to the commissioner of natural resources for
73.17 an agreement with the city of Duluth to
73.18 construct a new building and accessible
73.19 parking for the Thom Storm Chalet and
73.20 Outdoor Recreation Center at Chester Park to
73.21 expand high-quality outdoor recreation and
73.22 environmental education opportunities that
73.23 enhance youth and family understanding of
73.24 the importance of natural resource protection,
73.25 conservation, and preservation. Net income
73.26 generated as part of this appropriation may be
73.27 reinvested in the project if a plan for
73.28 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
73.29 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
73.30 116P.10.

73.31 **(l) Enhancing Preservation and Accessibility at**
73.32 **Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve**

73.33 \$155,000 the first year is from the trust fund
73.34 to the commissioner of natural resources for
73.35 an agreement with the city of Duluth to
73.36 develop accessible trails and remove invasive

74.1 species to enhance outdoor recreation and
74.2 education opportunities that promote
74.3 conservation of raptors and preservation of
74.4 natural resources at Hawk Ridge Nature
74.5 Reserve.

74.6 **(m) Echo Bay County Park - Phase 1**
74.7 **Construction**

74.8 \$1,122,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.9 to the commissioner of natural resources for
74.10 an agreement with Otter Tail County to
74.11 construct, in accordance with the Echo Bay
74.12 County Park Master Plan, access roads, trails,
74.13 parking, and bathroom facilities that create
74.14 designated public access and use corridors for
74.15 outdoor recreation and limit natural resource
74.16 impacts in Echo Bay County Park.

74.17 **(n) Chaska Big Woods Property Acquisition**

74.18 \$529,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for
74.20 an agreement with the city of Chaska to
74.21 acquire property that contains remnant Big
74.22 Woods to protect Minnesota forests and
74.23 wetlands and to increase community access
74.24 to natural areas.

74.25 **Subd. 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and**
74.26 **Contract Agreement Reimbursement**

7,267,000

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74.27 **(a) Emerging Issues Account**

74.28 \$2,984,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.29 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on
74.30 Minnesota Resources to an emerging issues
74.31 account authorized in Minnesota Statutes,
74.32 section 116P.08, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

74.33 **(b) 2025 Contract Agreement Reimbursement**

75.1 \$280,000 the first year is from the trust fund
75.2 to the commissioner of natural resources, at
75.3 the direction of the Legislative-Citizen
75.4 Commission on Minnesota Resources, for
75.5 expenses incurred in preparing and
75.6 administering contracts, including for the
75.7 agreements specified in this section.

75.8 **(c) LCCMR Administrative Budget**

75.9 \$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund
75.10 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on
75.11 Minnesota Resources for administration in
75.12 fiscal years 2026 and 2027 as provided in
75.13 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09,
75.14 subdivision 5. This appropriation is available
75.15 until June 30, 2027. Notwithstanding
75.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11,
75.17 paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section
75.18 16A.281, applies to this appropriation.

75.19 **(d) Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy**
75.20 **Website**

75.21 \$3,000 the first year is from the trust fund to
75.22 the Legislative Coordinating Commission for
75.23 the website required in Minnesota Statutes,
75.24 section 3.303, subdivision 10.

75.25 **Subd. 11. Availability of appropriations**

75.26 Money appropriated in this section may not
75.27 be spent on activities unless they are directly
75.28 related to and necessary for a specific
75.29 appropriation and are specified in the work
75.30 plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen
75.31 Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money
75.32 appropriated in this section must not be spent
75.33 on indirect costs or other institutional overhead
75.34 charges that are not directly related to and
75.35 necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs

76.1 that are directly related to and necessary for
76.2 an appropriation, including financial services,
76.3 human resources, information services, rent,
76.4 and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can
76.5 be clearly justified and individually
76.6 documented specific to the appropriation's
76.7 purpose and would not be generated by the
76.8 recipient but for receipt of the appropriation.
76.9 No broad allocations for costs in either dollars
76.10 or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise
76.11 provided, the amounts in this section are
76.12 available for three years beginning July 1,
76.13 2025, and ending June 30, 2028, when projects
76.14 must be completed and final products
76.15 delivered. For acquisition of real property, the
76.16 appropriations in this section are available for
76.17 an additional fiscal year if a binding contract
76.18 for acquisition of the real property is entered
76.19 into before the expiration date of the
76.20 appropriation. If a project receives a federal
76.21 award, the period of the appropriation is
76.22 extended to equal the federal award period to
76.23 a maximum trust fund appropriation length of
76.24 six years.

76.25 **Subd. 12. Data availability requirements**

76.26 Data collected by the projects funded under
76.27 this section must conform to guidelines and
76.28 standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services.
76.29 Spatial data must also conform to additional
76.30 guidelines and standards designed to support
76.31 data coordination and distribution that have
76.32 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial
76.33 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial
76.34 data must be prepared as specified in the state's
76.35 geographic metadata guidelines and final data

77.1 must be uploaded to the Minnesota Geospatial
77.2 Commons upon project completion. All data
77.3 must be accessible and free to the public
77.4 unless made private under the Data Practices
77.5 Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the
77.6 extent practicable, summary data and results
77.7 of projects funded under this section should
77.8 be readily accessible on the Internet and
77.9 identified as having received funding from the
77.10 environment and natural resources trust fund.

77.11 **Subd. 13. Project requirements**

77.12 (a) As a condition of accepting an
77.13 appropriation under this section, an agency or
77.14 entity receiving an appropriation or a party to
77.15 an agreement from an appropriation must
77.16 comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and
77.17 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must
77.18 submit a work plan and annual or semiannual
77.19 progress reports in the form determined by the
77.20 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
77.21 Resources for any project funded in whole or
77.22 in part with money from the appropriation.
77.23 Modifications to the approved work plan and
77.24 budget expenditures must be made through
77.25 the amendment process established by the
77.26 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
77.27 Resources.

77.28 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in this
77.29 section that conducts a restoration using
77.30 money appropriated in this section must use
77.31 native plant species according to the Board of
77.32 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
77.33 establishment and enhancement guidelines
77.34 and include an appropriate diversity of native
77.35 species selected to provide habitat for

78.1 pollinators throughout the growing season as
78.2 required under Minnesota Statutes, section
78.3 84.973.

78.4 (c) For all restorations conducted with money
78.5 appropriated under this section, a recipient
78.6 must prepare an ecological restoration and
78.7 management plan that, to the degree
78.8 practicable, is consistent with the
78.9 highest-quality conservation and ecological
78.10 goals for the restoration site. Consideration
78.11 should be given to soil, geology, topography,
78.12 and other relevant factors that would provide
78.13 the best chance for long-term success and
78.14 durability of the restoration project. The plan
78.15 must include the proposed timetable for
78.16 implementing the restoration, including site
78.17 preparation, establishment of diverse plant
78.18 species, maintenance, and additional
78.19 enhancement to establish the restoration;
78.20 identify long-term maintenance and
78.21 management needs of the restoration and how
78.22 the maintenance, management, and
78.23 enhancement will be financed; and take
78.24 advantage of the best-available science and
78.25 include innovative techniques to achieve the
78.26 best restoration.

78.27 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this
78.28 section for restoration activities must provide
78.29 an initial restoration evaluation at the
78.30 completion of the appropriation and an
78.31 evaluation three years after the completion of
78.32 the expenditure. Restorations must be
78.33 evaluated relative to the stated goals and
78.34 standards in the restoration plan, current
78.35 science, and, when applicable, the Board of

79.1 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
79.2 establishment and enhancement guidelines.
79.3 The evaluation must determine whether the
79.4 restorations are meeting planned goals,
79.5 identify any problems with implementing the
79.6 restorations, and, if necessary, give
79.7 recommendations on improving restorations.
79.8 The evaluation must be focused on improving
79.9 future restorations.

79.10 (e) All restoration and enhancement projects
79.11 funded with money appropriated in this section
79.12 must be on land permanently protected by a
79.13 conservation easement or public ownership.

79.14 (f) A recipient of money from an appropriation
79.15 under this section must give consideration to
79.16 contracting with Conservation Corps
79.17 Minnesota for contract restoration and
79.18 enhancement services.

79.19 (g) All conservation easements acquired with
79.20 money appropriated under this section must:

79.21 (1) be permanent;
79.22 (2) specify the parties to the easement in the
79.23 easement document;
79.24 (3) specify all provisions of an agreement that
79.25 are permanent;
79.26 (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen
79.27 Commission on Minnesota Resources in an
79.28 electronic format at least 20 business days
79.29 before closing;
79.30 (5) include a long-term monitoring and
79.31 enforcement plan and funding for monitoring
79.32 and enforcing the easement agreement; and

80.1 (6) include requirements in the easement
80.2 document to protect the quantity and quality
80.3 of groundwater and surface water through
80.4 specific activities, such as keeping water on
80.5 the landscape, reducing nutrient and
80.6 contaminant loading, and not permitting
80.7 artificial hydrological modifications.

80.8 (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in
80.9 lands, a recipient of money appropriated under
80.10 this section must not agree to pay more than
80.11 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel
80.12 of land using this money to complete the
80.13 purchase, in part or in whole, except that up
80.14 to ten percent above the appraised value may
80.15 be allowed to complete the purchase, in part
80.16 or in whole, using this money if permission is
80.17 received in advance of the purchase from the
80.18 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
80.19 Resources.

80.20 (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in
80.21 land, a recipient of money appropriated under
80.22 this section must give priority to high-quality
80.23 natural resources or conservation lands that
80.24 provide natural buffers to water resources.

80.25 (j) For new lands acquired with money
80.26 appropriated under this section, a recipient
80.27 must prepare an ecological restoration and
80.28 management plan in compliance with
80.29 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for
80.30 implementation unless the work plan addresses
80.31 why a portion of the money is not necessary
80.32 to achieve a high-quality restoration.

80.33 (k) To ensure public accountability for using
80.34 public money, a recipient of money
80.35 appropriated under this section must, within

81.1 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the
81.2 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
81.3 Resources documentation of the selection
81.4 process used to identify parcels acquired and
81.5 provide documentation of all related
81.6 transaction costs, including but not limited to
81.7 appraisals, legal fees, recording fees,
81.8 commissions, other similar costs, and
81.9 donations. This information must be provided
81.10 for all parties involved in the transaction. The
81.11 recipient must also report to the
81.12 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
81.13 Resources any difference between the
81.14 acquisition amount paid to the seller and the
81.15 state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if
81.16 a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal
81.17 was conducted.

81.18 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from the
81.19 trust fund under this section must acknowledge
81.20 financial support from the environment and
81.21 natural resources trust fund in project
81.22 publications, signage, and other public
81.23 communications and outreach related to work
81.24 completed using the appropriation.

81.25 Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate,
81.26 through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion
81.27 of language attributing support from the trust
81.28 fund. Each direct recipient of money
81.29 appropriated in this section, as well as each
81.30 recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this
81.31 section, must satisfy all reporting and other
81.32 requirements incumbent upon constitutionally
81.33 dedicated funding recipients as provided in
81.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision
81.35 10, and chapter 116P.

82.1 (m) A recipient of an appropriation from the
 82.2 trust fund under this section that is receiving
 82.3 funding to conduct children's services, as
 82.4 defined in Minnesota Statutes, section
 82.5 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the
 82.6 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
 82.7 Resources, as part of the required work plan,
 82.8 that criminal background checks for
 82.9 background check crimes, as defined in
 82.10 Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61,
 82.11 subdivision 2, are performed on all employees,
 82.12 contractors, and volunteers that have or may
 82.13 have access to a child to whom the recipient
 82.14 provides children's services using the
 82.15 appropriation.

82.16 **Subd. 14. Payment conditions and capital**
 82.17 **equipment expenditures**

82.18 (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts
 82.19 referred to in this section must be administered
 82.20 on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise
 82.21 provided in this section. Notwithstanding
 82.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41,
 82.23 expenditures made on or after July 1, 2025,
 82.24 or the date the work plan is approved,
 82.25 whichever is later, are eligible for
 82.26 reimbursement unless otherwise provided in
 82.27 this section. Periodic payments must be made
 82.28 upon receiving documentation that the
 82.29 deliverable items articulated in the approved
 82.30 work plan have been achieved, including
 82.31 partial achievements as evidenced by approved
 82.32 progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be
 82.33 advanced to projects to accommodate
 82.34 cash-flow needs or match federal money. The
 82.35 advances must be approved as part of the work
 82.36 plan. No expenditures for capital equipment

83.1 are allowed unless expressly authorized in the
83.2 project work plan.

83.3 (b) Single-source contracts as specified in the
83.4 approved work plan are allowed.

83.5 **Subd. 15. Purchasing recycled and recyclable**
83.6 **materials**

83.7 A political subdivision, public or private
83.8 corporation, or other entity that receives an
83.9 appropriation under this section must use the
83.10 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota
83.11 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding
83.12 purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable
83.13 materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section
83.14 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using
83.15 paper stock and printing.

83.16 **Subd. 16. Accessibility**

83.17 Structural and nonstructural facilities must
83.18 meet the design standards in the Americans
83.19 with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility
83.20 guidelines.

83.21 **Subd. 17. Carryforward; extensions**

83.22 (a) The availability of the appropriations for
83.23 the following projects is extended to June 30,
83.24 2026:

83.25 (1) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
83.26 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
83.27 (d), Foundational Hydrology Data for Wetland
83.28 Protection and Restoration;

83.29 (2) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
83.30 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph
83.31 (b), Protect Community Forests by Managing
83.32 Ash for Emerald Ash Borer;

- 84.1 (3) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
84.2 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph
84.3 (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation,
84.4 and Education;
- 84.5 (4) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
84.6 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
84.7 (g), Geologic Atlases for Water Resource
84.8 Management;
- 84.9 (5) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
84.10 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
84.11 (n), Bioacoustics for Broad-Scale Species
84.12 Monitoring and Conservation;
- 84.13 (6) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.14 subdivision 4, paragraph (f), Water and
84.15 Climate Information to Enhance Community
84.16 Resilience;
- 84.17 (7) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.18 subdivision 4, paragraph (i), Is the Tire
84.19 Chemical 6PPDq Killing Minnesota's Fish?;
- 84.20 (8) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.21 subdivision 7, paragraph (a), Green Solar Cells
84.22 from a Minnesota Natural Resource;
- 84.23 (9) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.24 subdivision 8, paragraph (d), Hastings Lake
84.25 Rebecca Park Area;
- 84.26 (10) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.27 subdivision 9, paragraph (a), Mesabi Trail:
84.28 Wahlsten Road (CR 26) to Tower; and
- 84.29 (11) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
84.30 subdivision 9, paragraph (j), Silver Bay
84.31 Multimodal Trailhead Project.

- 85.1 (b) The availability of the appropriations for
- 85.2 the following projects is extended to June 30,
- 85.3 2027:
- 85.4 (1) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 85.5 subdivision 4, paragraph (g), Catch and
- 85.6 Reveal: Discovering Unknown Fish
- 85.7 Contamination Threats;
- 85.8 (2) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 85.9 subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Native Prairie
- 85.10 Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement
- 85.11 Acquisition;
- 85.12 (3) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 85.13 subdivision 9, paragraph (h), SNA Habitat
- 85.14 Restoration and Public Engagement; and
- 85.15 (4) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 85.16 subdivision 9, paragraph (n), Ranier Safe
- 85.17 Harbor/Transient Dock - Phase 2.
- 85.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 17 is effective the day following final enactment.
- 85.19 Sec. 3. Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- 85.20 Subd. 3. **Foundational Natural Resource Data**
- 85.21 **and Information** -0- 14,993,000
- 85.22 (a) **Native Plant Community Data in the City of**
- 85.23 **Duluth**
- 85.24 \$198,000 the second year is from the trust
- 85.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 85.26 for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust
- 85.27 to develop field-verified native plant
- 85.28 community data and maps for the city of
- 85.29 Duluth and the St. Louis River estuary to
- 85.30 support conservation and restoration activities.
- 85.31 (b) **Reconstructing Historical Wild Rice to**
- 85.32 **Understand Its Future**

86.1 \$200,000 the second year is from the trust
86.2 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for
86.3 the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to
86.4 characterize environmental drivers
86.5 contributing to the decline of wild rice using
86.6 lake sediment cores to reconstruct historical
86.7 wild rice abundance in relation to lake and
86.8 watershed stressors.

86.9 **(c) Characterizing Tree Cavities and Use by**
86.10 **Minnesota's Wildlife**

86.11 \$349,000 the second year is from the trust
86.12 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
86.13 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
86.14 Research Institute in Duluth to assess the
86.15 effects of forest management on Minnesota's
86.16 primary cavity engineer, the pileated
86.17 woodpecker, and on the wildlife that rely on
86.18 the cavities that pileated woodpeckers create.
86.19 This appropriation is also to develop
86.20 management guidelines.

86.21 **(d) Fate of Minnesota's Lakes in the Next**
86.22 **Century**

86.23 \$453,000 the second year is from the trust
86.24 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
86.25 of Minnesota to use new modeling techniques
86.26 to quantify how water quality of Minnesota's
86.27 lakes will change in the next century under
86.28 future land use and climate change scenarios
86.29 and to create an online web tool to display the
86.30 results. This appropriation is subject to
86.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This
86.32 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,
86.33 by which time the project must be completed
86.34 and final products delivered.

86.35 **(e) Turtle Island Skywatchers - Minnesota**
86.36 **Research and Data Visualization**

87.1 \$200,000 the second year is from the trust
87.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
87.3 for an agreement with Native Skywatchers
87.4 Inc. to engage youth in environmental
87.5 stewardship by collecting images and acoustic
87.6 data from turtles and other culturally
87.7 significant animals and their habitats,
87.8 evaluating the differences in these soundscapes
87.9 across landscapes, and sharing the results
87.10 through scientific storytelling and online
87.11 platforms.

87.12 **(f) Monitoring Minnesota's Insects: Connecting**
87.13 **Habitat to Insect Prey**

87.14 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
87.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
87.16 of Minnesota to investigate the ecological
87.17 roles of and energy transfer by certain
87.18 Minnesota insects throughout their life cycles
87.19 and to train future insect researchers on field
87.20 techniques.

87.21 **(g) Determining Ambient Background PFAS**
87.22 **Concentrations in Minnesota Soils**

87.23 \$621,000 the second year is from the trust
87.24 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution
87.25 Control Agency to determine ambient
87.26 background per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance
87.27 (PFAS) levels in urban and nonurban soils to
87.28 help Minnesota develop management
87.29 strategies for PFAS-contaminated soils. This
87.30 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,
87.31 by which time the project must be completed
87.32 and final products delivered.

87.33 **(h) Investigating Life History Characteristics of**
87.34 **Minnesota Elk**

88.1 \$933,000 the second year is from the trust
88.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
88.3 to assess Minnesota elk herd health and
88.4 genetic diversity, movements, survival, and
88.5 causes of mortality and to develop a
88.6 noninvasive, safer, and more accurate method
88.7 to estimate population size. This appropriation
88.8 is available until June 30, 2028, by which time
88.9 the project must be completed and final
88.10 products delivered.

88.11 **(i) Foundational Data for Moth and Butterfly**
88.12 **Conservation**

88.13 \$195,000 the second year is from the trust
88.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
88.15 to perform field surveys and consolidate
88.16 existing data to create the first comprehensive
88.17 list of Minnesota moths and butterflies. This
88.18 appropriation is also to conduct outreach to
88.19 inform land managers and to facilitate public
88.20 appreciation of these species.

88.21 **(j) DNR County Groundwater Atlas**

88.22 \$3,200,000 the second year is from the trust
88.23 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
88.24 to continue producing county groundwater
88.25 atlases to inform management of surface water
88.26 and groundwater resources for drinking and
88.27 other purposes. This appropriation is for Part
88.28 B, to characterize the potential water yields of
88.29 aquifers and aquifers' sensitivity to
88.30 contamination.

88.31 **(k) Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase III**

88.32 \$996,000 the second year is from the trust
88.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
88.34 of Minnesota to continue to study summertime
88.35 wolf predation on deer, moose, and other

89.1 species in the greater Voyageurs ecosystem
89.2 to inform wildlife management and to share
89.3 natural history of this species with the public.
89.4 This appropriation is available until June 30,
89.5 2028, by which time the project must be
89.6 completed and final products delivered.

89.7 **(l) Distribution and Population Status of Weasels**
89.8 **in Minnesota**

89.9 \$400,000 the second year is from the trust
89.10 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
89.11 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
89.12 Research Institute in Duluth to determine the
89.13 distribution, relative abundance, and spatial
89.14 occupancy patterns of small weasel species in
89.15 Minnesota to fill key knowledge gaps in
89.16 weasel distribution and status in Minnesota.

89.17 **(m) Improving Aquatic Plant Knowledge for**
89.18 **Healthy Waters**

89.19 \$198,000 the second year is from the trust
89.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
89.21 to collect foundational data on Minnesota's
89.22 native aquatic plant biodiversity through new
89.23 and enhanced lake surveys and to disseminate
89.24 results to state resource managers, scientists,
89.25 and the public.

89.26 **(n) New Small Mammal Monitoring Methods**
89.27 **for Minnesota**

89.28 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
89.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
89.30 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
89.31 Research Institute in Duluth to develop camera
89.32 trapping methods as a new tool to collect
89.33 foundational data and fill key knowledge gaps
89.34 in the status of small mammal species in
89.35 Minnesota.

90.1 **(o) Status of Bats and Roost Trees after**
90.2 **White-Nose Syndrome**

90.3 \$195,000 the second year is from the trust
90.4 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
90.5 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
90.6 Research Institute in Duluth to study changes
90.7 in maternity roost trees and bat populations in
90.8 the forested areas of Minnesota and to evaluate
90.9 the effects of years of white-nose syndrome
90.10 on Minnesota bats.

90.11 **(p) Sublethal Effects of Pesticides on the**
90.12 **Invertebrate Community**

90.13 \$387,000 the second year is from the trust
90.14 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
90.15 of Minnesota to provide data on pesticide
90.16 contamination in soil and the insect
90.17 community across the state and the effect of
90.18 insecticide exposure on insect reproduction.
90.19 This appropriation is available until June 30,
90.20 2029, by which time the project must be
90.21 completed and final products delivered.

90.22 **(q) Modernizing Minnesota's Plant Community**
90.23 **Classification and Field Guides**

90.24 \$1,800,000 the second year is from the trust
90.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
90.26 to collect additional vegetation and
90.27 environmental data and update the state's
90.28 20-year-old native plant community
90.29 classification guides to incorporate new data,
90.30 streamline user application and access to
90.31 products, and include analysis of climate and
90.32 vegetation trends. Net income generated as
90.33 part of this appropriation may be reinvested
90.34 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
90.35 approved in the work plan. This appropriation

91.1 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
91.2 116P.10.

91.3 **(r) Assessing Prairie Health to Inform Pollinator**
91.4 **Conservation**

91.5 \$297,000 the second year is from the trust
91.6 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Society to
91.7 assess habitat quality and pesticide occurrence
91.8 in Minnesota prairies to help inform
91.9 management actions, endangered species
91.10 recovery plans, and pollinator reintroduction
91.11 efforts for endangered and threatened
91.12 butterflies and other wildlife.

91.13 **(s) Understanding Native Fishes in the**
91.14 **Bowfishing Era**

91.15 \$588,000 the second year is from the trust
91.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
91.17 of Minnesota, Duluth, to collect foundational
91.18 biological information on a selection of native
91.19 Minnesota fish to aid in sustainable
91.20 management, improve recreational
91.21 opportunities, and educate the public about
91.22 these shared aquatic resources. This
91.23 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,
91.24 by which time the project must be completed
91.25 and final products delivered.

91.26 **(t) Preserving Minnesota Wildflower**
91.27 **Information**

91.28 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
91.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
91.30 of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural
91.31 History, to preserve and enhance Minnesota
91.32 Wildflowers Information, an online tool for
91.33 plant identification, by integrating the content
91.34 and functionality of the website with the
91.35 Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for public use

92.1 as required by Laws 2017, chapter 96, section
92.2 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (e).

92.3 **(u) White-Tailed Deer Movement and Disease**
92.4 **in Suburban Areas**

92.5 \$699,000 the second year is from the trust
92.6 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
92.7 of Minnesota to better understand white-tailed
92.8 deer movement, habitat use, and disease
92.9 dynamics at the suburban-agricultural interface
92.10 to inform more efficient deer management and
92.11 disease control.

92.12 **(v) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and**
92.13 **Minnesota Raptors**

92.14 \$187,000 the second year is from the trust
92.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
92.16 of Minnesota for the Raptor Center to evaluate
92.17 Minnesota raptors for current or past infections
92.18 with highly pathogenic avian influenza virus
92.19 to better understand disease transmission and
92.20 outbreak impacts on raptor populations.

92.21 **(w) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**
92.22 **Management**

92.23 \$1,236,000 the second year is from the trust
92.24 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
92.25 of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey,
92.26 to continue producing county geologic atlases
92.27 to inform management of surface water and
92.28 groundwater resources. This appropriation is
92.29 to complete Part A, which focuses on the
92.30 properties and distribution of earth materials
92.31 to define aquifer boundaries and the
92.32 connection of aquifers to the land surface and
92.33 surface water resources.

92.34 **(x) Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat**

93.1 \$180,000 the second year is from the trust
93.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
93.3 for an agreement with Monarch Joint Venture
93.4 to use remote sensing technology to evaluate
93.5 pollinator habitat on energy and transportation
93.6 corridors across Minnesota and to host
93.7 field-day training workshops. Net income
93.8 generated as part of this appropriation may be
93.9 reinvested in the project if a plan for
93.10 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
93.11 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
93.12 116P.10.

93.13 **(y) Harnessing Cover Crops and Roots for**
93.14 **Sustainable Cropping**

93.15 \$375,000 the second year is from the trust
93.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
93.17 of Minnesota to determine carbon
93.18 sequestration, nitrogen credit potential, water
93.19 use, and performance of cover crops in
93.20 corn-soybean and corn-soybean-wheat
93.21 rotations in southern Minnesota.

93.22 **(z) Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar**
93.23 **Sites Managed for Pollinator Habitat**

93.24 \$88,000 the second year is from the trust fund
93.25 to the commissioner of natural resources for
93.26 an agreement with Minnesota Native
93.27 Landscapes, in partnership with Temple
93.28 University, to analyze the effects of sheep
93.29 grazing and mowing on the vegetation and
93.30 soils of solar sites managed for pollinator
93.31 habitat and to improve understanding of the
93.32 environmental outcomes from the colocation
93.33 of solar panels; grazing; and native,
93.34 pollinator-friendly vegetation. This
93.35 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,

94.1

by which time the project must be completed

94.2

and final products delivered.

94.3

(aa) Genetic Detection of Endangered Mussels

94.4

in the Mississippi

94.5

\$241,000 the second year is from the trust

94.6

fund to the commissioner of natural resources

94.7

for an agreement with the United States

94.8

Geological Survey, Ohio Water Microbiology

94.9

Lab, to create, optimize, and use eDNA assays

94.10

to detect the presence of endangered or

94.11

threatened mussel species around Buffalo

94.12

Slough near the Prairie Island Indian

94.13

Community.

94.14

(bb) Integrated Population Modeling for

94.15

Trumpeter Swans

94.16

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust

94.17

fund to the Board of Regents of the University

94.18

of Minnesota to compile and use all available

94.19

data to model historical population abundance

94.20

and estimate future population dynamics of

94.21

Minnesota trumpeter swans.

94.22

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

94.23

Sec. 4. Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

94.24

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land,

94.25

Water, and Habitat

-0-

10,910,000

94.26

(a) Long-Term Preservation of Minnesota's Ball

94.27

Cactus Population

94.28

\$100,000 the second year is from the trust

94.29

fund to the Board of Regents of the University

94.30

of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape

94.31

Arboretum to protect Minnesota's only

94.32

population of ball cactus by supporting

94.33

population expansion and establishment,

94.34

monitoring transferred plants, and training

95.1 long-term volunteer monitors. This
95.2 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
95.3 by which time the project must be completed
95.4 and final products delivered.

95.5 **(b) Morrison County Historical Society**
95.6 **Streambank Stabilization and Restoration**

95.7 \$519,000 the second year is from the trust
95.8 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
95.9 for an agreement with the Morrison Soil and
95.10 Water Conservation District to stabilize and
95.11 restore land along the Mississippi River owned
95.12 by the Morrison County Historical Society
95.13 within the statutory boundaries of Charles A.
95.14 Lindbergh State Park to improve water quality
95.15 and improve aquatic and terrestrial habit. For
95.16 purposes of this appropriation, subdivision 13,
95.17 paragraph (e), does not apply. The
95.18 commissioner of natural resources may make
95.19 reasonable amounts of this appropriation
95.20 available on an advance basis to accommodate
95.21 the Morrison Soil and Water Conservation
95.22 District's cash-flow needs if a plan for the
95.23 advances is approved as part of the work plan.

95.24 **(c) Can Increased Tree Diversity Increase**
95.25 **Community Diversity?**

95.26 \$415,000 the second year is from the trust
95.27 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
95.28 of Minnesota to evaluate impacts of increasing
95.29 tree diversity on wildlife, plant and fungal
95.30 communities, and carbon storage within aspen
95.31 forests in northern Minnesota to develop best
95.32 management practices for mixed woodland
95.33 systems.

95.34 **(d) Restoration of Riverside Park**

96.1 \$141,000 the second year is from the trust
96.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
96.3 for an agreement with the city of Long Prairie
96.4 to improve water retention, increase native
96.5 habitat, and enhance footpaths for recreation
96.6 at Riverside Park in Todd County, Minnesota.
96.7 The project must create a net increase in
96.8 habitat, and this appropriation may not be used
96.9 to meet the conditions of any permits received
96.10 for the project.

96.11 **(e) Pollinator Central IV: Habitat Improvement**
96.12 **with Public Engagement**

96.13 \$698,000 the second year is from the trust
96.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
96.15 for an agreement with Great River Greening
96.16 to partner with municipalities, educational
96.17 organizations, and volunteers to create and
96.18 enhance pollinator habitat along public
96.19 corridors from Lakeville to St. Cloud and to
96.20 engage youth and the public through education
96.21 and monitoring the impact of habitat
96.22 improvements. This appropriation is available
96.23 until June 30, 2028, by which time the project
96.24 must be completed and final products
96.25 delivered.

96.26 **(f) Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and**
96.27 **Better Soil**

96.28 \$342,000 the second year is from the trust
96.29 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
96.30 for an agreement with the National Audubon
96.31 Society, Minnesota office, to assess Audubon
96.32 Conservation Ranching as a strategic approach
96.33 to improve grassland biodiversity, soils, and
96.34 ecosystem resilience. This appropriation is
96.35 available until June 30, 2028, by which time

97.1 the project must be completed and final
97.2 products delivered.

97.3 **(g) Minnesota Microbes for Enhanced**
97.4 **Biodegradation of Microplastics**

97.5 \$524,000 the second year is from the trust
97.6 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
97.7 of Minnesota to investigate the potential of
97.8 natural and indigenous microbes to biodegrade
97.9 conventional plastics in contaminated soils
97.10 and waters across the state. This appropriation
97.11 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
97.12 116P.10.

97.13 **(h) Completing the Mississippi River Greenway:**
97.14 **Dakota County**

97.15 \$657,000 the second year is from the trust
97.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
97.17 for an agreement with Dakota County to
97.18 restore and enhance habitat on public lands,
97.19 establish linear native plantings, and install
97.20 electric-vehicle charging stations within and
97.21 along the 27-mile Mississippi River Greenway
97.22 in Dakota County. Net income generated as
97.23 part of this appropriation may be reinvested
97.24 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
97.25 approved in the work plan. This appropriation
97.26 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
97.27 116P.10, and is available until June 30, 2028,
97.28 by which time the project must be completed
97.29 and final products delivered.

97.30 **(i) Enabling Nature to Destroy Environmental**
97.31 **PFAS Contaminants**

97.32 \$378,000 the second year is from the trust
97.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
97.34 of Minnesota to identify enzymes and
97.35 microbes that can break down soil-based per-

98.1 and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into
98.2 nontoxic elements. This appropriation is
98.3 subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

98.4 **(j) Bioacoustics for Species Monitoring and**
98.5 **Conservation - Phase 2**

98.6 \$568,000 the second year is from the trust
98.7 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
98.8 of Minnesota to assess avian diversity at the
98.9 statewide scale by developing a citizen science
98.10 bioacoustics monitoring program with an
98.11 initial focus on private lands.

98.12 **(k) Preventing PFAS and Microplastics**
98.13 **Contaminants Across Minnesota**

98.14 \$656,000 the second year is from the trust
98.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
98.16 of Minnesota to help stop the flow of per- and
98.17 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and
98.18 microplastics contaminants into Minnesota's
98.19 environment by developing strategies and
98.20 technologies to manage solid waste streams
98.21 on site. This appropriation is subject to
98.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

98.23 **(l) Shingle Creek Aquatic and Shoreline Habitat**
98.24 **Enhancement**

98.25 \$1,100,000 the second year is from the trust
98.26 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
98.27 for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park
98.28 and Recreation Board to plan and restore a
98.29 section of Shingle Creek in north Minneapolis
98.30 with native aquatic and shoreline vegetation,
98.31 channel and bank modification, and natural
98.32 stream features. This appropriation is also to
98.33 monitor plant and animal health following
98.34 construction to ensure that the ecological
98.35 functioning of the creek corridor is restored.

99.1 This appropriation is available until June 30,
99.2 2030, by which time the project must be
99.3 completed and final products delivered.

99.4 **(m) LiDAR Technology to Help Prevent Wildlife**
99.5 **Fatalities from Wind Turbines**

99.6 \$525,000 the second year is from the trust
99.7 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
99.8 of Minnesota to create a low-cost and
99.9 advanced LiDAR system to detect bats and
99.10 birds approaching wind turbines that may be
99.11 used in concert with deterrence or impact
99.12 avoidance methods to prevent collisions. This
99.13 appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes,
99.14 section 116P.10.

99.15 **(n) Road Salt Pollution of Surface Waters from**
99.16 **Groundwater**

99.17 \$622,000 the second year is from the trust
99.18 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
99.19 of Minnesota to inform source-reduction
99.20 efforts by developing a model to identify hot
99.21 spots where road-salt-contaminated
99.22 groundwater leads to chloride pollution of
99.23 surface waters.

99.24 **(o) Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation**
99.25 **Herd**

99.26 \$1,775,000 the second year is from the trust
99.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
99.28 to reintroduce bison to Camden State Park as
99.29 part of a statewide effort to preserve the
99.30 American Plains bison genome.
99.31 Reintroduction includes the design,
99.32 construction, and installation of fencing, a
99.33 handling facility, signage, exhibits, and other
99.34 site improvements. This appropriation is
99.35 available until June 30, 2030, by which time

100.1 the project must be completed and final
100.2 products delivered.

100.3 **(p) Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals**
100.4 **and Multiplying Benefits**

100.5 \$1,890,000 the second year is from the trust
100.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
100.7 for an agreement with the Hubbard County
100.8 Soil and Water Conservation District, in
100.9 cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to
100.10 protect habitat, forest health, and water quality
100.11 in the best fishing lakes by creating lake
100.12 implementation action plans, conducting
100.13 community-based habitat restorations and
100.14 improvements, and protecting forest lands with
100.15 conservation easements and Sustainable Forest
100.16 Incentive Act (SFIA) enrollments within
100.17 prioritized areas of the upper Mississippi River
100.18 basin ~~in Hubbard County~~. Of this amount, up
100.19 to \$168,000 is for deposit in a monitoring fund
100.20 to be used by Minnesota Land Trust as
100.21 approved in the work plan and subject to
100.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.20.

100.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

100.24 **ARTICLE 3**

100.25 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND COMMUNITY**
100.26 **GRANTS APPROPRIATIONS**

100.27 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; ENRTF COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM.**

100.28 \$28,180,000 in fiscal year 2026 is appropriated from the environment and natural
100.29 resources trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to make grants under the
100.30 environment and natural resources trust fund community grant program established in
100.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 116X.03. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until
100.32 June 30, 2028.

101.1 **ARTICLE 4**

101.2 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY**

101.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.027, is amended by adding a subdivision
101.4 to read:

101.5 Subd. 21. **Outreach to culturally diverse communities.** The commissioner must ensure
101.6 that, to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner's work and the work of the
101.7 department are carried out in a manner that facilitates outreach to and communication with
101.8 Minnesotans of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and languages. To the maximum extent
101.9 practicable, public hearings, solicitations for grant proposals, and other interactions with
101.10 the public must include audiovisual communication components and shall not rely exclusively
101.11 on written forms of communication.

101.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.03, is amended to read:

101.13 **84.03 ADDITIONAL DUTIES AND POWERS.**

101.14 (a) So far as practicable the commissioner shall collect and arrange statistics and other
101.15 information in reference to the lands and general and special resources of the state.

101.16 (b) The commissioner is hereby authorized and empowered to take such measures as
101.17 the commissioner may deem advisable to advertise, both within and without the state, sales
101.18 of all state lands, and to secure, compile, and issue such valuable statistics of the resources
101.19 of the state.

101.20 (c) The commissioner may adopt and promulgate reasonable rules, not inconsistent with
101.21 law, governing the use and enjoyment of state land reserved from sale, state parks, state
101.22 water-access sites, state trails, state monuments, state scientific and natural areas, state
101.23 wilderness areas, and recreational areas owned by other state, local and federal agencies
101.24 and operated under agreement by the Department of Natural Resources, which shall have
101.25 the force and effect of law. A reasonable fee may be fixed, charged, and collected by the
101.26 commissioner for the privilege of the use of any or all of the foregoing privileges and
101.27 facilities.

101.28 ~~(d) The commissioner, on or before November 15 of each even-numbered year, shall~~
101.29 ~~report to the legislature the commissioner's acts and doings, with recommendation for the~~
101.30 ~~improvement or conservation of state parks, state water-access sites, state trails, and state~~
101.31 ~~monuments, state scientific and natural areas, state forests, state wildlife management areas,~~
101.32 ~~public hunting grounds, public shooting grounds, food and cover planting areas, wildlife~~
101.33 ~~lands, recreational or public hunting areas, state wild and scenic rivers, state wilderness~~

102.1 ~~areas, and all other recreational lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural~~
102.2 ~~Resources, and for desirable accessions thereto, such report to include an inventory of the~~
102.3 ~~tracts and parcels of land, and rights, interests, and easements therein, held by the state or~~
102.4 ~~withdrawn from sale for any of these purposes, with the value thereof, and a list of the name,~~
102.5 ~~location, size, and description of each state trail, state scientific and natural area, state wildlife~~
102.6 ~~management area, state water access site, and state wild, scenic, or recreational river~~
102.7 ~~designated by the commissioner, and each public hunting grounds, public shooting grounds,~~
102.8 ~~food and cover planting area, wildlife lands, and recreational or public hunting area acquired~~
102.9 ~~by the commissioner since the last report. The commissioner shall maintain a long range~~
102.10 ~~plan governing the use of the public domain under the commissioner's jurisdiction.~~

102.11 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.8035, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

102.12 Subdivision 1. **Pass required; fee.** (a) Except as provided under paragraph (c), a person
102.13 may not operate an off-road vehicle on a state or grant-in-aid off-road vehicle trail or use
102.14 area unless the ~~vehicle displays an~~ operator carries a valid off-road vehicle state trail pass
102.15 issued according to this section. The pass must be available ~~to be viewed~~ for inspection by
102.16 a peace officer, a conservation officer, or an employee designated under section 84.0835.

102.17 (b) The commissioner of natural resources shall issue a pass upon application and payment
102.18 of the fee. Fees collected under this section, except for the issuing fee for licensing agents,
102.19 shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the off-road vehicle account in the
102.20 natural resources fund and, except for the electronic licensing system commission established
102.21 by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, must be used for grants-in-aid
102.22 to counties and municipalities for off-road vehicle organizations to construct and maintain
102.23 off-road vehicle trails and use areas.

102.24 (c) An off-road vehicle state trail pass is not required for:

102.25 (1) an off-road vehicle that is owned and used by the United States, another state, or a
102.26 political subdivision thereof that is exempt from registration under section 84.798, subdivision
102.27 2;

102.28 (2) a person operating an off-road vehicle only on the portion of a trail that is owned by
102.29 the person or the person's spouse, child, or parent; or

102.30 (3) a person operating an off-road vehicle that is registered according to section 84.798.

102.31 (d) The fee for an annual nonresident off-road vehicle state trail pass is \$20. The
102.32 nonresident pass is valid from January 1 through December 31. The fee for a nonresident
102.33 three-year pass is \$30.

103.1 (e) The fee for a resident off-road vehicle state trail pass is \$20. The resident pass is
103.2 valid for 30 consecutive days after the date of issuance.

103.3 Sec. 4. **[84.9766] OUTDOOR SCHOOL FOR ALL; GRANT PROGRAM.**

103.4 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The commissioner of natural resources must establish
103.5 and administer a program to provide grants to learning centers eligible under subdivision
103.6 2 for outdoor education programs serving students in grades 4 through 12.

103.7 Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) The commissioner may award grants under this section to
103.8 overnight outdoor school experience providers accredited by a state-recognized school
103.9 accrediting agency and to other outdoor school experience accredited providers offering
103.10 similar programming.

103.11 (b) To be eligible for a grant under this section, the outdoor education program must:

103.12 (1) provide a multiday, overnight educational experience that is comprised mainly of
103.13 outdoor-based learning activities;

103.14 (2) provide students with opportunities to directly experience and understand nature and
103.15 the natural world, including field study opportunities for student learning;

103.16 (3) use a research-based environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other
103.17 natural-resource-based educational curriculum;

103.18 (4) be integrated with local school curricula to help students meet academic standards;

103.19 (5) provide students with opportunities to develop:

103.20 (i) leadership;

103.21 (ii) critical thinking;

103.22 (iii) self-sufficiency;

103.23 (iv) decision-making skills; and

103.24 (v) social and emotional skills; and

103.25 (6) address accessibility of outdoor educational opportunities for underserved students,
103.26 including students with disabilities.

104.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84D.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
104.2 read:

104.3 Subd. 6a. **Eviscerated.** "Eviscerated" means to have the internal organs removed from
104.4 the body cavity or to have the gills severed to ensure that an organism is dead.

104.5 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84D.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

104.6 Subdivision 1. **Prohibited activities.** A person may not possess, import, purchase, sell,
104.7 propagate, transport, or introduce a prohibited invasive species, except:

104.8 (1) under a permit issued by the commissioner under section 84D.11;

104.9 (2) in the case of purple loosestrife, as provided by sections 18.75 to 18.88;

104.10 (3) under a restricted species permit issued under section 17.457;

104.11 (4) a person may possess, import, purchase, sell, and transport bighead carp, grass carp,
104.12 and silver carp if they are dead and eviscerated;

104.13 ~~(4)~~ (5) when being transported to the department, or another destination as the
104.14 commissioner may direct, in a sealed container for purposes of identifying the species or
104.15 reporting the presence of the species;

104.16 ~~(5)~~ (6) when being transported for disposal as part of a harvest or control activity when
104.17 specifically authorized under a permit issued by the commissioner according to section
104.18 103G.615, when being transported for disposal as specified under a commercial fishing
104.19 license issued by the commissioner according to section 97A.418, 97C.801, 97C.811,
104.20 97C.825, 97C.831, or 97C.835, or when being transported as specified by the commissioner;

104.21 ~~(6)~~ (7) when being removed from watercraft and equipment, or caught while angling,
104.22 and immediately returned to the water from which they came;

104.23 ~~(7)~~ (8) when being transported from riparian property to a legal disposal site that is at
104.24 least 100 feet from any surface water, ditch, or seasonally flooded land, provided the
104.25 prohibited invasive species are in a covered commercial vehicle specifically designed and
104.26 used for hauling trash; or

104.27 ~~(8)~~ (9) as the commissioner may otherwise prescribe by rule.

104.28 Sec. 7. **[86B.109] ABANDONED WATERCRAFT.**

104.29 Subdivision 1. **Tagging authority; notice to owner.** (a) A peace officer or an employee
104.30 designated by the commissioner under section 84.0835 may place a tag on a watercraft

105.1 unlawfully located on public accesses, public lands, and waters of this state or unlawfully
105.2 located on property adjacent to waters of this state. A watercraft is unlawfully located if the
105.3 watercraft appears to be:

105.4 (1) inoperative and neglected, wrecked, stranded, or substantially dismantled;

105.5 (2) in immediate danger of sinking; or

105.6 (3) unmoored and unattended.

105.7 (b) A peace officer or employee who places a tag on a watercraft under this subdivision
105.8 must notify the commissioner of placing the tag within 48 hours. The notification must
105.9 include a statement of the basis for the decision to place a tag on the watercraft.

105.10 (c) Upon receiving notification under paragraph (b), the commissioner must send a notice
105.11 by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the registered owner of the watercraft. The
105.12 notice must state that:

105.13 (1) the watercraft has been tagged and the condition that resulted in the watercraft being
105.14 tagged must be remedied immediately; and

105.15 (2) failure to remedy within 14 days of the notice being sent is a criminal violation that
105.16 may result in civil and criminal penalties and the forfeiture of the watercraft.

105.17 Subd. 2. **Failure to remedy.** The registered owner of a watercraft who knowingly fails
105.18 to remedy the condition that resulted in the watercraft being tagged within 14 days of the
105.19 commissioner sending the notice required by subdivision 1, paragraph (c), is guilty of a
105.20 misdemeanor. In addition, the owner is liable to the Department of Natural Resources for
105.21 all costs incurred by the commissioner in enforcing this section against the owner and is
105.22 subject to a civil penalty of not less than two times nor more than five times the costs incurred
105.23 by the commissioner to remove, process, and dispose of the watercraft. Civil penalties
105.24 imposed under this subdivision may be enforced and distributed as provided in section
105.25 115A.99.

105.26 Subd. 3. **Seizure of abandoned watercraft.** Fourteen days after the commissioner sends
105.27 the notice required by subdivision 1, paragraph (c), to the registered owner, or concludes
105.28 that there is no registered owner, the commissioner must investigate the watercraft. If, upon
105.29 inspection, the watercraft has not been removed and the condition that prompted the peace
105.30 officer or employee to tag it has not been substantially remedied, the watercraft is considered
105.31 abandoned and the commissioner must seize and forfeit the watercraft according to section
105.32 97A.223.

Subd. 4. **Relation to other law.** An abandoned watercraft that becomes submerged and subject to section 86B.107 must be removed and disposed of in accordance with that section.

Subd. 5. **Exceptions.** This section does not apply to previously sunk watercraft of historical significance or that are currently a destination for scuba divers or commercial tourism that do not pose an ongoing environmental or public safety risk.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 86B.415, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Watercraft surcharge.** A ~~\$10.60~~ surcharge is placed on each watercraft licensed under subdivisions 1 to 5 for control, public awareness, law enforcement, monitoring, and research of aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussel, purple loosestrife, and Eurasian watermilfoil in public waters and public wetlands. The surcharge is:

(1) for a watercraft 19 feet or less in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (2) to (8), \$29;

(2) for a watercraft, other than personal watercraft, 19 feet in length or less that is offered for rent or lease, \$25;

(3) for a sailboat 19 feet in length or less, \$20;

(4) for a watercraft used by a nonprofit corporation for teaching boat and water safety, \$14;

(5) for a watercraft owned by a dealer under a dealer's license, \$50;

(6) for a personal watercraft, including one offered for rent or lease, \$25;

(7) for a watercraft less than 17 feet in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (2) to (6), \$25;

(8) for a canoe, kayak, sailboard, paddleboard, paddleboat, or rowing shell over ten feet in length, \$20;

(9) for a watercraft more than 19 feet but less than 26 feet in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$38;

(10) for a watercraft 26 feet but less than 40 feet in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$50;

(11) for a watercraft 40 feet in length or longer, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$62; and

(12) for a watercraft used primarily for charter fishing, commercial fishing, commercial passenger carrying, or other commercial operation, \$50.

107.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

107.2 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.223, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

107.3 Subdivision 1. **Property subject to seizure and forfeiture.** (a) An enforcement officer
107.4 must seize:

107.5 (1) firearms possessed in violation of state or federal law or court order; ~~and~~

107.6 (2) property described in section 97A.221, subdivision 1, where no owner can be
107.7 determined; and

107.8 (3) a watercraft that is abandoned according to section 86B.109, subdivision 3.

107.9 (b) Property seized under this section is subject to administrative forfeiture.

107.10 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.421, is amended by adding a subdivision
107.11 to read:

107.12 **Subd. 3c. Restrictions after conviction; abandoned watercraft.** (a) After a conviction
107.13 under section 86B.109, subdivision 2, the following license and registration restrictions
107.14 remain in effect until the person reimburses the Department of Natural Resources for all
107.15 the department's costs under section 86B.109, subdivision 2:

107.16 (1) all the person's annual game and fish licenses are void;

107.17 (2) the person may not act under any lifetime game and fish license;

107.18 (3) all the person's watercraft licenses and registrations that are required to operate
107.19 watercraft in the state are void;

107.20 (4) all the person's off-highway vehicle and snowmobile licenses and registrations that
107.21 are required to operate those vehicles in the state are void; and

107.22 (5) the person may not obtain any of the licenses or registrations described in clauses
107.23 (1) to (4).

107.24 (b) If a conviction under section 86B.109, subdivision 2, was for abandoning a watercraft
107.25 in a boundary water of the state, the commissioner must coordinate with neighboring
107.26 jurisdictions to ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, the person is subject to
107.27 similar consequences in the neighboring jurisdiction as those imposed under paragraph (a).

108.1 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.001, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

108.2 Subd. 4. **Entering posted land prohibited; signs.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision
108.3 6, a person may not:

108.4 (1) enter, for outdoor recreation purposes, any land that is posted under this subdivision
108.5 without first obtaining permission of the owner, occupant, or lessee; or

108.6 (2) knowingly enter, for outdoor recreation purposes, any land that is posted under this
108.7 subdivision without first obtaining permission of the owner, occupant, or lessee. A person
108.8 who violates this clause is subject to the penalty provided in section 97A.315, subdivision
108.9 1, paragraph (b).

108.10 (b) The owner, occupant, or lessee of private land, or an authorized manager of public
108.11 land may prohibit outdoor recreation on the land by posting signs once each year that:

108.12 (1) state "no trespassing" or similar terms;

108.13 (2) display letters at least two inches high;

108.14 (3) either:

108.15 (i) are signed by the owner, occupant, lessee, or authorized manager; or

108.16 (ii) include the legible name and telephone number of the owner, occupant, lessee, or
108.17 authorized manager; and

108.18 (4) either:

108.19 (i) are at intervals of 1,000 feet or less along the boundary of the area, or in a wooded
108.20 area where boundary lines are not clear, at intervals of 500 feet or less; or

108.21 (ii) mark the primary corners of each parcel of land and access roads and trails at the
108.22 point of entrance to each parcel of land except that corners only accessible through
108.23 agricultural land need not be posted.

108.24 (c) A person may not ~~erect a sign that prohibits outdoor recreation or trespassing act~~
108.25 under paragraph (b) or (d) where the person does not have a property right, title, or interest
108.26 to use the land.

108.27 (d) As an alternative to posting signage under paragraph (b), the owner, occupant, or
108.28 lessee of private land, or an authorized manager of public land, may prohibit outdoor
108.29 recreation on the land by:

108.30 (1) applying purple paint to trees along the perimeter of the area to which the person
108.31 wants to prohibit entrance. Paint applied under this paragraph must be applied:

- 109.1 (i) at least three feet off the ground;
109.2 (ii) to trees that are at least one inch wide; and
109.3 (iii) in a strip that is at least eight inches tall; and
109.4 (2) posting signs once each year that mark the primary corners of the area to which the
109.5 person wants to prohibit entrance.

109.6 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.037, is amended to read:

109.7 **97B.037 CROSSBOW HUNTING AND FISHING.**

109.8 (a) Notwithstanding section 97B.035, subdivisions 1 and 2, a person may take deer,
109.9 bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow during the respective regular
109.10 archery seasons. The transportation requirements of section 97B.051 apply to crossbows
109.11 during the regular archery deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish season.
109.12 Crossbows must meet the requirements of section 97B.106, subdivision 2. A person taking
109.13 deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow under this section must
109.14 have a valid license to take the respective game.

109.15 (b) This section expires June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

109.16 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.318, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

109.17 Subdivision 1. **Shotgun use area.** (a) During the regular firearms season in the shotgun
109.18 use area, only legal shotguns loaded with single-slug shotgun shells, legal muzzle-loading
109.19 long guns, and legal handguns may be used for taking deer. Legal shotguns include those
109.20 with rifled barrels. The shotgun use area ~~is that portion of the state lying within the following~~
109.21 ~~described boundary: Beginning on the west boundary of the state at the northern boundary~~
109.22 ~~of Clay County; thence along the northern boundary of Clay County to State Trunk Highway~~
109.23 ~~(STH) 32; thence along STH 32 to STH 34; thence along STH 34 to Interstate Highway 94~~
109.24 ~~(I-94); thence along I-94 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 40, Douglas County; thence~~
109.25 ~~along CSAH 40 to CSAH 82, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 82 to CSAH 22, Douglas~~
109.26 ~~County; thence along CSAH 22 to CSAH 6, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 6 to~~
109.27 ~~CSAH 14, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 14 to STH 29; thence along STH 29 to~~
109.28 ~~CSAH 46, Otter Tail County; thence along CSAH 46, Otter Tail County, to CSAH 22, Todd~~
109.29 ~~County; thence along CSAH 22 to U.S. Highway 71; thence along U.S. Highway 71 to STH~~
109.30 ~~27; thence along STH 27 to the Mississippi River; thence along the east bank of the~~
109.31 ~~Mississippi River to STH 23; thence along STH 23 to STH 95; thence along STH 95 to~~
109.32 ~~U.S. Highway 8; thence along U.S. Highway 8 to the eastern boundary of the state; thence~~

110.1 ~~along the east, south, and west boundaries of the state to the point of beginning~~ consists of
110.2 the counties that have passed a resolution as provided under paragraph (b).

110.3 (b) A county board may adopt an ordinance after notice and public hearing to limit the
110.4 type of firearms that may be used to hunt deer within the county. To be included in the
110.5 shotgun use area beginning January 1, the county board must submit the resolution to the
110.6 commissioner of natural resources on or before October 1 of the prior year.

110.7 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.405, is amended to read:

110.8 **97B.405 COMMISSIONER MAY LIMIT NUMBER OF BEAR HUNTERS.**

110.9 (a) The commissioner may limit the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area,
110.10 if it is necessary to prevent an overharvest or improve the distribution of hunters. The
110.11 commissioner may establish, by rule, a method, including a drawing, to impartially select
110.12 the hunters for an area. The commissioner shall give preference to hunters that have
110.13 previously applied and have not been selected. Additionally, the commissioner may award
110.14 points toward a preference under this section to a person who is at least eight years of age,
110.15 so that by the time the person is old enough to be a bear hunter the person has accumulated
110.16 a number of preference points.

110.17 (b) If the commissioner limits the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area under
110.18 paragraph (a), the commissioner must reserve one permit and give first preference for that
110.19 permit to a resident of a Minnesota veterans home.

110.20 (c) A person selected through a drawing must purchase a license by August 1. Any
110.21 remaining available licenses not purchased shall be issued to any eligible person as prescribed
110.22 by the commissioner on a first-come, first-served basis beginning three business days after
110.23 August 1.

110.24 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.667, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

110.25 Subd. 3. **Permits and notice; requirements.** (a) Before killing or arranging to kill a
110.26 beaver under this section, the road authority or government unit must contact a conservation
110.27 officer for a special beaver permit if the beaver will be killed within two weeks before or
110.28 after the trapping season for beaver, and the conservation officer must issue the permit for
110.29 any beaver subject to this section. A permit is not required:

110.30 (1) for a licensed trapper during the open trapping season for beaver; or

110.31 (2) when the trapping season for beaver is closed and it is not within two weeks before
110.32 or after the trapping season for beaver.

111.1 (b) A road authority or government unit that kills or arranges to have killed a beaver
111.2 under this section must notify a conservation officer or employee of the Fish and Wildlife
111.3 Division within ten days after the animal is killed.

111.4 (c) Unless otherwise directed by a conservation officer, the road authority, local
111.5 government unit, the landowner, or their agent may dispose of or retain beaver killed under
111.6 this section. ~~Human consumption of a retained beaver is prohibited.~~

111.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

111.8 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97C.395, is amended to read:

111.9 **97C.395 OPEN SEASONS FOR ANGLING.**

111.10 Subdivision 1. **Dates for certain species.** (a) The open seasons to take fish by angling
111.11 are as follows:

111.12 (1) for walleye, sauger, northern pike, and muskellunge, ~~largemouth bass, and smallmouth~~
111.13 ~~bass~~, the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through the
111.14 last Sunday in February;

111.15 (2) for brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, rainbow trout, and splake, between January
111.16 1 through October 31 as prescribed by the commissioner by rule except as provided in
111.17 section 97C.415, subdivision 2; and

111.18 (3) for salmon, as prescribed by the commissioner by rule.

111.19 (b) The commissioner shall close the season in areas of the state where fish are spawning
111.20 and closing the season will protect the resource.

111.21 Subd. 2. **Continuous season for certain species.** For largemouth bass, smallmouth bass,
111.22 sunfish, white crappie, black crappie, yellow perch, channel catfish, rock bass, white bass,
111.23 yellow bass, burbot, cisco (tullibee), lake whitefish, common carp, and native rough fish,
111.24 the open season is continuous.

111.25 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97C.835, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

111.26 Subd. 2. **Types of fish permitted.** Lake trout, ciscoes, chubs, alewives, lake whitefish,
111.27 round whitefish, pygmy whitefish, rainbow smelt, common carp, burbot, and native rough
111.28 fish may be taken by licensed commercial fishing operators from Lake Superior, in
111.29 accordance with this section.

112.1 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.201, is amended to read:

112.2 **103G.201 PUBLIC WATERS INVENTORY.**

112.3 (a) The commissioner shall maintain a public waters inventory map of each county that
112.4 shows the waters of this state that are designated as public waters under the public waters
112.5 inventory and classification procedures prescribed under Laws 1979, chapter 199, and shall
112.6 provide access to a copy of the maps. As county public waters inventory maps are revised
112.7 according to this section, the commissioner shall send a notification or a copy of the maps
112.8 to the auditor of each affected county.

112.9 (b) The commissioner ~~must~~ may revise the map of public waters established under Laws
112.10 1979, chapter 199, to reclassify those types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands previously identified as
112.11 public waters wetlands under Laws 1979, chapter 199, as public waters or as wetlands under
112.12 section 103G.005, subdivision 19. The commissioner may only reclassify public waters
112.13 wetlands as public waters if:

112.14 (1) they are assigned a shoreland management classification by the commissioner under
112.15 sections 103F.201 to 103F.221;

112.16 (2) they are classified as lacustrine wetlands or deepwater habitats according to
112.17 Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.,
112.18 1979 edition); or

112.19 (3) the state or federal government has become titleholder to any of the beds or shores
112.20 of the public waters wetlands, subsequent to the preparation of the public waters inventory
112.21 map filed with the auditor of the county, pursuant to paragraph (a), and the responsible state
112.22 or federal agency declares that the water is necessary for the purposes of the public
112.23 ownership.

112.24 (c) The commissioner must provide notice of the reclassification to the local government
112.25 unit, the county board, the watershed district, if one exists for the area, and the soil and
112.26 water conservation district. Within 60 days of receiving notice from the commissioner, a
112.27 party required to receive the notice may provide a resolution stating objections to the
112.28 reclassification. If the commissioner receives an objection from a party required to receive
112.29 the notice, the reclassification is not effective. If the commissioner does not receive an
112.30 objection from a party required to receive the notice, the reclassification of a wetland under
112.31 paragraph (b) is effective 60 days after the notice is received by all of the parties.

112.32 (d) The commissioner shall give priority to the reclassification of public waters wetlands
112.33 that are or have the potential to be affected by public works projects.

- 113.1 (e) The commissioner ~~may~~ must revise the public waters inventory map of each county:
- 113.2 (1) to reflect the changes authorized in paragraph (b); and
- 113.3 (2) as needed, to:
- 113.4 (i) correct errors in the original inventory;
- 113.5 (ii) add or subtract trout stream tributaries within sections that contain a designated trout
- 113.6 stream following written notice to the landowner;
- 113.7 (iii) add depleted quarries, and sand and gravel pits, when the body of water exceeds 50
- 113.8 acres and the shoreland has been zoned for residential development; and
- 113.9 (iv) add or subtract public waters that have been created or eliminated as a requirement
- 113.10 of a permit authorized by the commissioner under section 103G.245.
- 113.11 (f) \$1,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund each year in fiscal years 2025
- 113.12 through 2032 to the commissioner to update the public water inventory as required in this
- 113.13 section. The commissioner must develop and implement a process to update the public
- 113.14 water inventory. This paragraph expires June 30, 2032.
- 113.15 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.271, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- 113.16 Subd. 6. **Water-use permit; processing fee.** (a) Except as described in paragraphs (b)
- 113.17 to (g), a water-use permit processing fee must be prescribed by the commissioner in
- 113.18 accordance with the schedule of fees in this subdivision for each water-use permit in force
- 113.19 at any time during the year. Fees collected under this paragraph are credited to the water
- 113.20 management account in the natural resources fund. The schedule is as follows, with the
- 113.21 stated fee in each clause applied to the total amount appropriated:
- 113.22 (1) ~~\$140~~ \$200 for amounts not exceeding 50,000,000 gallons per year;
- 113.23 (2) ~~\$3.50~~ \$6 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 50,000,000 gallons but less
- 113.24 than 100,000,000 gallons per year;
- 113.25 (3) ~~\$4~~ \$7 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 100,000,000 gallons but less
- 113.26 than 150,000,000 gallons per year;
- 113.27 (4) ~~\$4.50~~ \$8 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 150,000,000 gallons but
- 113.28 less than 200,000,000 gallons per year;
- 113.29 (5) ~~\$5~~ \$9 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 200,000,000 gallons but less
- 113.30 than 250,000,000 gallons per year;

114.1 (6) ~~\$5.50~~ \$10 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 250,000,000 gallons but
114.2 less than 300,000,000 gallons per year;

114.3 (7) ~~\$6~~ \$11 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 300,000,000 gallons but less
114.4 than 350,000,000 gallons per year;

114.5 (8) ~~\$6.50~~ \$12 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 350,000,000 gallons but
114.6 less than 400,000,000 gallons per year;

114.7 (9) ~~\$7~~ \$13 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 400,000,000 gallons but less
114.8 than 450,000,000 gallons per year;

114.9 (10) ~~\$7.50~~ \$14 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 450,000,000 gallons but
114.10 less than 500,000,000 gallons per year; and

114.11 (11) ~~\$8~~ \$15 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 500,000,000 gallons per
114.12 year.

114.13 (b) For once-through cooling systems, a water-use processing fee must be prescribed
114.14 by the commissioner in accordance with the following schedule of fees for each water-use
114.15 permit in force at any time during the year:

114.16 (1) for nonprofit corporations and school districts, \$200 per 1,000,000 gallons; and

114.17 (2) for all other users, \$420 per 1,000,000 gallons.

114.18 (c) The fee is payable based on the amount of water appropriated during the year and,
114.19 ~~except as provided in paragraph (f),~~ the minimum fee is \$100.

114.20 (d) For water-use processing fees other than once-through cooling systems:

114.21 (1) the fee for a city of the first class may not exceed ~~\$250,000~~ \$325,000 per year;

114.22 (2) the fee for other entities for any permitted use may not exceed:

114.23 (i) ~~\$60,000~~ \$75,000 per year for an entity holding three or fewer permits;

114.24 (ii) ~~\$90,000~~ \$125,000 per year for an entity holding four or five permits; or

114.25 (iii) ~~\$300,000~~ \$400,000 per year for an entity holding more than five permits;

114.26 (3) the fee for agricultural irrigation may not exceed ~~\$750~~ \$1,500 per year;

114.27 (4) the fee for a municipality that furnishes electric service and cogenerates steam for
114.28 home heating may not exceed \$10,000 for its permit for water use related to the cogeneration
114.29 of electricity and steam;

(5) the fee for a facility that temporarily diverts a water of the state from its natural channel to produce hydroelectric or hydromechanical power may not exceed \$5,000 per year. A permit for such a facility does not count toward the number of permits held by an entity as described in this paragraph; and

(6) no fee is required for a project involving the appropriation of surface water to prevent flood damage or to remove floodwaters during a period of flooding, as determined by the commissioner.

(e) Failure to pay the fee is sufficient cause for revoking a permit. A penalty of ten percent per month calculated from the original due date must be imposed on the unpaid balance of fees remaining 30 days after the sending of a second notice of fees due. A fee may not be imposed on an agency, as defined in section 16B.01, subdivision 2, or federal governmental agency holding a water appropriation permit.

(f) The minimum water-use processing fee for a permit issued for irrigation of agricultural land is ~~\$20~~ \$100 for years in which:

(1) there is no appropriation of water under the permit; or

(2) the permit is suspended for more than seven consecutive days between May 1 and October 1.

(g) The commissioner shall waive the water-use permit fee for installations and projects that use stormwater runoff or where public entities are diverting water to treat a water quality issue and returning the water to its source without using the water for any other purpose, unless the commissioner determines that the proposed use adversely affects surface water or groundwater.

(h) A surcharge of \$50 per million gallons in addition to the fee prescribed in paragraph (a) ~~shall be~~ is applied to the volume of water used in each of the months of May, June, July, August, and September that exceeds the volume of water used in January for municipal water use, irrigation of golf courses, and landscape irrigation. The surcharge for municipalities with more than one permit ~~shall be~~ is determined based on the total appropriations from all permits that supply a common distribution system.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.301, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Permit application and notification fees.** (a) A fee to defray the costs of receiving, recording, and processing must be paid for a permit application authorized under

116.1 this chapter, except for a general permit application, for each request to amend or transfer
116.2 an existing permit, and for a notification to request authorization to conduct a project under
116.3 a general permit. Fees established under this subdivision, unless specified in paragraph (c),
116.4 must comply with section 16A.1285.

116.5 (b) Proposed projects that require water in excess of 100 million gallons per year must
116.6 be assessed fees to recover the costs incurred to evaluate the project and the costs incurred
116.7 for environmental review. Fees collected under this paragraph must be credited to an account
116.8 in the natural resources fund and are appropriated to the commissioner.

116.9 (c) The fee to apply for a permit to appropriate water, in addition to any fee under
116.10 paragraph (b), is ~~\$150~~ \$600. The application fee for a permit to construct or repair a dam
116.11 that is subject to a dam safety inspection, to work in public waters, or to divert waters for
116.12 mining must be at least \$1,200, but not more than \$12,000. The fee for a notification to
116.13 request authorization to conduct a project under a general permit is \$400, except that the
116.14 fee for a notification to request authorization to appropriate water under a general permit
116.15 is \$100.

116.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

116.17 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
116.18 read:

116.19 Subd. 2a. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Pollution
116.20 Control Agency.

116.21 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115B.421, is amended to read:

116.22 **115B.421 CLOSED LANDFILL INVESTMENT FUND.**

116.23 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** ~~(a)~~ The closed landfill investment fund is established in
116.24 the state treasury. The fund consists of money credited to the fund and interest and other
116.25 earnings on money in the fund. Funds must be deposited as described in section 115B.445.
116.26 The fund must be managed to maximize long-term gain through the State Board of
116.27 Investment.

116.28 ~~(b) Each fiscal year, up to \$4,500,000 is appropriated from the closed landfill investment~~
116.29 ~~fund to the commissioner for the purposes of sections 115B.39 to 115B.444.~~

116.30 ~~(c) If the commissioner determines that a release or threatened release from a qualified~~
116.31 ~~facility for which the commissioner has assumed obligations for environmental response~~
116.32 ~~actions under section 115B.40 or 115B.406 constitutes an emergency requiring immediate~~

117.1 ~~action to prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage either to the public health or welfare or the~~
117.2 ~~environment or to a system designed to protect the public health or welfare or the~~
117.3 ~~environment, up to \$9,000,000 in addition to the amount appropriated under paragraph (b)~~
117.4 ~~is appropriated to the commissioner in the first year of the biennium and may be spent by~~
117.5 ~~the commissioner to take reasonable and necessary emergency response actions. Money~~
117.6 ~~not spent in the first year of the biennium may be spent in the second year. If money is~~
117.7 ~~appropriated under this paragraph, the commissioner must notify the chairs of the senate~~
117.8 ~~and house of representatives committees having jurisdiction over environment policy and~~
117.9 ~~finance as soon as possible. The commissioner must maintain the fund balance to ensure~~
117.10 ~~long-term viability of the fund and reflect the responsibility of the landfill cleanup program~~
117.11 ~~in perpetuity.~~

117.12 ~~(d) Paragraphs (b) and (c) expire June 30, 2025.~~

117.13 Subd. 2. **Local notification.** If money in the closed landfill investment fund is spent or
117.14 transferred for purposes other than the purposes provided under sections 115B.39 to
117.15 115B.444, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must provide written
117.16 notification to each county with a qualified facility within 30 days of the transfer or
117.17 expenditure that includes the amount, purpose, and authority used to spend or transfer the
117.18 money.

117.19 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to
117.20 read:

117.21 Subd. 13. **Outreach to culturally diverse communities.** The commissioner must ensure
117.22 that, to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner's work and the work of the agency
117.23 are carried out in a manner that facilitates outreach to and communication with Minnesotans
117.24 of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and languages. To the maximum extent practicable, public
117.25 hearings, solicitations for grant proposals, and other interactions with the public must include
117.26 audiovisual communication components and shall not rely exclusively on written forms of
117.27 communication.

117.28 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.073, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

117.29 Subdivision 1. **Authority to issue.** (a) Pollution Control Agency staff designated by the
117.30 commissioner and Department of Natural Resources conservation officers may issue citations
117.31 to a person who:

118.1 (1) disposes of solid waste as defined in section 116.06, subdivision 22, at a location
118.2 not authorized by law for the disposal of solid waste without permission of the owner of
118.3 the property;

118.4 (2) fails to report or recover discharges as required under section 115.061;

118.5 (3) fails to take discharge preventive or preparedness measures required under chapter
118.6 115E;

118.7 (4) fails to install or use vapor recovery equipment during the transfer of gasoline from
118.8 a transport delivery vehicle to an underground storage tank as required in section 116.49,
118.9 subdivisions 3 and 4;

118.10 (5) performs labor or services designing, installing, constructing, inspecting, servicing,
118.11 repairing, or operating a subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) as defined in chapter
118.12 115 and has violated rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 in any of the following
118.13 categories:

118.14 (i) failure to acquire or maintain a current state-issued SSTS license;

118.15 (ii) failure to acquire or maintain a current surety bond for SSTS activities;

118.16 (iii) failure to acquire or maintain a required local permit for SSTS activities; or

118.17 (iv) failure to submit SSTS as-built plans or compliance inspection forms to the local
118.18 governmental unit; ~~or~~

118.19 (6) performs labor or services pumping, hauling, treating, spreading, dumping,
118.20 discharging, or land applying septage as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 7080.1100, subpart
118.21 69, and has violated rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
118.22 Regulations, title 40, section 503, in any of the following categories:

118.23 (i) failure to acquire or maintain a current state-issued SSTS license;

118.24 (ii) failure to acquire or maintain a current surety bond for SSTS activities;

118.25 (iii) failure to provide control measures to prevent the pollution of underground waters
118.26 from the discharge of septage into the saturated or unsaturated zone;

118.27 (iv) failure to produce records or maintain records in accordance with Code of Federal
118.28 Regulations, title 40, section 503; or

118.29 (v) failure to treat septage for pathogens and vectors in accordance with Code of Federal
118.30 Regulations, title 40, section 503; or

119.1 (7) fails to self-certify that they have received the skin-lightener notice and will comply
119.2 with the law, as required by section 325F.998.

119.3 (b) Agency staff designated by the commissioner may issue citations to facility owners
119.4 and operators who fail to produce, within 30 days or within a reasonable alternative time
119.5 frame as determined and required by the commissioner, information or reports necessary
119.6 for developing and reissuing permits and permit amendments under chapters 114C and 115
119.7 to 116. If the owner or operator cannot produce the information or reports within 30 days
119.8 or according to an alternative time frame required by the commissioner, the owner or operator
119.9 may request an extension within 30 days of the request for information or reports. The
119.10 commissioner must keep records of citations issued under this paragraph that identify the
119.11 facility, the owner or operator, and any person hired by or representing the owner or operator
119.12 to prepare or assist in preparing the permit application or other information or report requested
119.13 by the commissioner.

119.14 ~~(b)~~ (c) In addition, Pollution Control Agency staff designated by the commissioner may
119.15 issue citations to owners and operators of facilities who violate sections 116.46 to 116.50
119.16 and Minnesota Rules, chapters 7150 and 7151 and parts 7001.4200 to 7001.4300. A citation
119.17 issued under this subdivision must include a requirement that the person cited remove and
119.18 properly dispose of or otherwise manage the waste or discharged oil or hazardous substance,
119.19 reimburse any government agency that has disposed of the waste or discharged oil or
119.20 hazardous substance and contaminated debris for the reasonable costs of disposal, or correct
119.21 any storage tank violations.

119.22 ~~(c)~~ (d) Citations for violations of sections 115E.045 and 116.46 to 116.50 and Minnesota
119.23 Rules, chapters 7150 and 7151, may be issued only after the owners and operators have had
119.24 a 60-day period to correct violations stated in writing by Pollution Control Agency staff,
119.25 unless there is a discharge associated with the violation or the violation is a repeat violation
119.26 from a previous inspection.

119.27 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.073, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

119.28 Subd. 2. **Penalty amount.** The citation must impose the following penalty amounts:

119.29 (1) \$100 per major appliance, as defined in section 115A.03, subdivision 17a, up to a
119.30 maximum of \$2,000;

119.31 (2) \$25 per waste tire, as defined in section 115A.90, subdivision 11, up to a maximum
119.32 of \$2,000;

119.33 (3) \$25 per lead acid battery governed by section 115A.915, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

- 120.1 (4) \$1 per pound of other solid waste or \$20 per cubic foot up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.2 (5) up to \$200 for any amount of waste that escapes from a vehicle used for the
- 120.3 transportation of solid waste if, after receiving actual notice that waste has escaped the
- 120.4 vehicle, the person or company transporting the waste fails to immediately collect the waste;
- 120.5 (6) \$50 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
- 120.6 storage tank system design, construction, installation, and notification requirements, up to
- 120.7 a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.8 (7) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to upgrading of
- 120.9 existing underground storage tank systems, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per tank system;
- 120.10 (8) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
- 120.11 storage tank system general operating requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.12 (9) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
- 120.13 storage tank system release detection requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.14 (10) \$50 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to out-of-service
- 120.15 underground storage tank systems and closure, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.16 (11) \$50 per violation of sections 116.48 to 116.491 relating to underground storage
- 120.17 tank system notification, monitoring, environmental protection, and tank installers training
- 120.18 and certification requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.19 (12) \$25 per gallon of oil or hazardous substance discharged which is not reported or
- 120.20 recovered under section 115.061, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.21 (13) \$1 per gallon of oil or hazardous substance being stored, transported, or otherwise
- 120.22 handled without the prevention or preparedness measures required under chapter 115E, up
- 120.23 to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.24 (14) \$250 per violation of Minnesota Rules, parts 7001.4200 to 7001.4300 or chapter
- 120.25 7151, related to aboveground storage tank systems, up to a maximum of \$2,000;
- 120.26 (15) \$250 per delivery made in violation of section 116.49, subdivision 3 or 4, levied
- 120.27 against:
- 120.28 (i) the retail location if vapor recovery equipment is not installed or maintained properly;
- 120.29 (ii) the carrier if the transport delivery vehicle is not equipped with vapor recovery
- 120.30 equipment; or
- 120.31 (iii) the driver for failure to use supplied vapor recovery equipment;

121.1 (16) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
121.2 to comply with state subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) license requirements, up
121.3 to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.4 (17) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
121.5 to comply with SSTS surety bond requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.6 (18) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
121.7 to provide control measures to prevent the pollution of underground waters from the discharge
121.8 of septage into the saturated or unsaturated zone, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.9 (19) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
121.10 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to treat septage for pathogens and
121.11 vectors, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.12 (20) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
121.13 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to produce records or maintain records,
121.14 up to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.15 (21) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
121.16 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to submit as-built plans or compliance
121.17 inspection forms to the local governmental unit, up to a maximum of \$2,000; ~~and~~

121.18 (22) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
121.19 to obtain required local permits, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

121.20 (23) \$100 per violation of section 325F.998, relating to certification that businesses will
121.21 comply with skin-lightener requirements; and

121.22 (24) \$50 per day under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), for each information item or report
121.23 requested for the first 30 days delinquent and \$500 per day thereafter, up to a maximum of
121.24 \$20,000 for each information item or report requested, until the commissioner determines
121.25 the request for information or report is complete.

121.26 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.182, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

121.27 Subd. 5. **Rules.** (a) The agency shall adopt rules for the administration of the financial
121.28 assistance program. For wastewater treatment projects, the rules must include:

121.29 (1) application requirements;

121.30 (2) criteria for the ranking of projects in order of priority based on factors including the
121.31 type of project and the degree of environmental impact, and scenic and wild river standards;
121.32 and

122.1 (3) criteria for determining essential project components.

122.2 (b) Notwithstanding any provision in Minnesota Rules, chapter 7077, to the contrary,
122.3 for purposes of Minnesota Rules, parts 7077.0117, 7077.0118, and 7077.0119, the
122.4 commissioner must assign 40 points if a municipality is proposing a project to address
122.5 emerging contaminants, as defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
122.6 This paragraph expires June 30, 2030.

122.7 Sec. 27. **[325F.998] SKIN-LIGHTENER NOTICE REQUIRED.**

122.8 Subdivision 1. **Notice required.** After August 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
122.9 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must send a notice to retailers who sell
122.10 skin-lightening products which states that selling skin-lightening products that contain
122.11 mercury is illegal and subject to penalties. Additionally, the commissioner must engage in
122.12 outreach to retailers who sell skin-lightening products in order to convey the dangers of
122.13 using skin-lightening products that contain mercury.

122.14 Subd. 2. **Certification.** Businesses who receive notice from the commissioner must
122.15 self-certify on a form prescribed by the commissioner that they have received the notice
122.16 and will comply with the law.

122.17 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 446A.07, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

122.18 Subd. 8. **Other uses of revolving fund.** (a) The clean water revolving fund may be used
122.19 as provided in title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, including the following
122.20 uses:

122.21 (1) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of governmental units for treatment works
122.22 where debt was incurred and construction begun after March 7, 1985, at or below market
122.23 rates;

122.24 (2) to guarantee or purchase insurance for local obligations to improve credit market
122.25 access or reduce interest rates;

122.26 (3) to provide a source of revenue or security for the payment of principal and interest
122.27 on revenue or general obligation bonds issued by the authority if the bond proceeds are
122.28 deposited in the fund;

122.29 (4) to provide loan guarantees, loans, or set-aside for similar revolving funds established
122.30 by a governmental unit other than state agencies, or state agencies under sections 17.117,
122.31 103F.725, subdivision 1a, and 116J.617;

123.1 (5) to earn interest on fund accounts; and

123.2 (6) to pay the reasonable costs incurred by the authority and the Pollution Control Agency
123.3 of administering the fund and conducting activities required under the Federal Water Pollution
123.4 Control Act, including water quality management planning under section 205(j) of the act
123.5 and water quality standards continuing planning under section 303(e) of the act;

123.6 (b) The clean water revolving fund may be used to provide additional subsidization as
123.7 permitted under the federal Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law to provide
123.8 principal forgiveness or grants:

123.9 ~~(7) to provide principal forgiveness or grants to the extent permitted under the Federal~~
123.10 ~~Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law, (1) based on the affordability criteria~~
123.11 ~~and requirements established for the wastewater water infrastructure funding program under~~
123.12 ~~section 446A.072; and~~

123.13 ~~(8) to provide loans, principal forgiveness, or grants to the extent permitted under the~~
123.14 ~~Federal Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law (2) for 25 percent of project costs~~
123.15 ~~up to a maximum of \$1,000,000 for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy~~
123.16 ~~efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities; and~~

123.17 (3) for 50 percent of project costs up to a maximum of \$3,000,000 for projects that
123.18 address emerging contaminants as defined by the United States Environmental Protection
123.19 Agency.

123.20 ~~(b) Amounts spent under paragraph (a), clause (6), may not exceed the amount allowed~~
123.21 ~~under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.~~

123.22 ~~(c) Principal forgiveness or grants provided under paragraph (a), clause (8), may not~~
123.23 ~~exceed 25 percent of the eligible project costs as determined by the Pollution Control Agency~~
123.24 ~~for project components directly related to green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency~~
123.25 ~~improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities, up to a maximum of~~
123.26 ~~\$1,000,000.~~

123.27 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 473.355, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

123.28 Subd. 2. **Grants.** (a) The Metropolitan Council must establish a grant program to provide
123.29 grants to cities, counties, townships, Tribal governments, and implementing agencies for
123.30 the following purposes:

123.31 (1) removing and planting shade trees on public land to provide environmental benefits;

123.32 (2) replacing trees lost to forest pests, disease, or storms; and

124.1 (3) establishing a more diverse community forest better able to withstand disease and
124.2 forest pests.

124.3 (b) Any tree planted with money granted under this section must be a climate-adapted
124.4 species to Minnesota.

124.5 Sec. 30. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

124.6 Subd. 2. **Environmental Analysis and Outcomes** 79,311,000 72,785,000

124.7 Appropriations by Fund

124.8		2024	2025
124.9	General	60,103,000	53,047,000
124.10	Environmental	18,959,000	19,533,000
124.11	Remediation	249,000	205,000

124.12 (a) \$122,000 the first year and \$125,000 the
124.13 second year are from the general fund for:

124.14 (1) a municipal liaison to assist municipalities
124.15 in implementing and participating in the
124.16 rulemaking process for water quality standards
124.17 and navigating the NPDES/SDS permitting
124.18 process;

124.19 (2) enhanced economic analysis in the
124.20 rulemaking process for water quality
124.21 standards, including more-specific analysis
124.22 and identification of cost-effective permitting;

124.23 (3) developing statewide economic analyses
124.24 and templates to reduce the amount of
124.25 information and time required for
124.26 municipalities to apply for variances from
124.27 water quality standards; and

124.28 (4) coordinating with the Public Facilities
124.29 Authority to identify and advocate for the
124.30 resources needed for urban, suburban, and
124.31 Greater Minnesota municipalities to achieve
124.32 permit requirements.

125.1 (b) \$216,000 the first year and \$219,000 the
125.2 second year are from the environmental fund
125.3 for a monitoring program under Minnesota
125.4 Statutes, section 116.454.

125.5 (c) \$132,000 the first year and \$137,000 the
125.6 second year are for monitoring water quality
125.7 and operating assistance programs.

125.8 (d) \$390,000 the first year and \$399,000 the
125.9 second year are from the environmental fund
125.10 for monitoring ambient air for hazardous
125.11 pollutants.

125.12 (e) \$106,000 the first year and \$109,000 the
125.13 second year are from the environmental fund
125.14 for duties related to harmful chemicals in
125.15 children's products under Minnesota Statutes,
125.16 sections 116.9401 to 116.9407. Of this
125.17 amount, \$68,000 the first year and \$70,000
125.18 the second year are transferred to the
125.19 commissioner of health.

125.20 (f) \$128,000 the first year and \$132,000 the
125.21 second year are from the environmental fund
125.22 for registering wastewater laboratories.

125.23 (g) \$1,492,000 the first year and \$1,519,000
125.24 the second year are from the environmental
125.25 fund to continue perfluorochemical
125.26 biomonitoring in eastern metropolitan
125.27 communities, as recommended by the
125.28 Environmental Health Tracking and
125.29 Biomonitoring Advisory Panel, and to address
125.30 other environmental health risks, including air
125.31 quality. The communities must include Hmong
125.32 and other immigrant farming communities.
125.33 Of this amount, up to \$1,226,000 the first year

126.1 and \$1,248,000 the second year are for transfer
126.2 to the commissioner of health.

126.3 (h) \$61,000 the first year and \$62,000 the
126.4 second year are from the environmental fund
126.5 for the listing procedures for impaired waters
126.6 required under this act.

126.7 (i) \$72,000 the first year and \$74,000 the
126.8 second year are from the remediation fund for
126.9 the leaking underground storage tank program
126.10 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
126.11 releases from underground petroleum storage
126.12 tanks and for the petroleum remediation
126.13 program for vapor assessment and
126.14 remediation. These same annual amounts are
126.15 transferred from the petroleum tank fund to
126.16 the remediation fund.

126.17 (j) \$500,000 the first year is to facilitate the
126.18 collaboration and modeling of greenhouse gas
126.19 impacts, costs, and benefits of strategies to
126.20 reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions.
126.21 This is a onetime appropriation.

126.22 (k) \$50,266,000 the first year and \$50,270,000
126.23 the second year are to establish and implement
126.24 a local government climate resiliency and
126.25 water infrastructure grant program for local
126.26 governmental units and Tribal governments.
126.27 Of this amount, \$49,100,000 each year is for
126.28 grants to support communities in planning and
126.29 implementing projects that will allow for
126.30 adaptation for a changing climate. At least 40
126.31 percent of the money granted under this
126.32 paragraph must be for projects in areas that
126.33 meet environmental justice criteria. By
126.34 December 30, 2027, the commissioner must
126.35 submit a report on the use of grant money to

127.1 the chairs and ranking minority members of
127.2 the legislative committees with jurisdiction
127.3 over environment and natural resources
127.4 finance. This appropriation is available until
127.5 June 30, 2027. The base for this appropriation
127.6 in fiscal year 2026 and beyond is \$270,000.

127.7 (l) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to the
127.8 city of Fergus Falls to address water-quality
127.9 concerns at Lake Alice.

127.10 (m) \$150,000 the first year is for a grant to
127.11 Rice County to address water-quality concerns
127.12 at French Lake.

127.13 (n) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to
127.14 Ramsey County to address water-quality
127.15 concerns at Round Lake.

127.16 (o) Recipients of money appropriated in
127.17 paragraphs (l), (m), and (n) may use the grants
127.18 to contract for water-quality improvement
127.19 services, testing, necessary infrastructure,
127.20 training, and maintenance.

127.21 (p) \$2,070,000 the first year and \$2,070,000
127.22 the second year are from the environmental
127.23 fund to develop and implement a program
127.24 related to emerging issues, including
127.25 Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint.

127.26 (q) \$1,820,000 the first year and \$1,820,000
127.27 the second year are from the environmental
127.28 fund to support improved management of data
127.29 collected by the agency and its partners and
127.30 regulated parties to facilitate decision-making
127.31 and public access.

127.32 (r) \$500,000 the first year is from the general
127.33 fund for the report on firefighter turnout gear
127.34 and biomonitoring required under this act. Of

128.1 this amount, up to ~~\$250,000~~ \$425,000 may be
128.2 transferred to the commissioner of health for
128.3 biomonitoring of firefighters. This
128.4 appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

128.5 (s) \$500,000 the first year is to develop
128.6 protocols to be used by agencies and
128.7 departments for sampling and testing
128.8 groundwater, surface water, public drinking
128.9 water, and private wells for microplastics and
128.10 nanoplastics and to begin implementation. The
128.11 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency
128.12 may transfer money appropriated under this
128.13 paragraph to the commissioners of agriculture,
128.14 natural resources, and health to implement the
128.15 protocols developed. This is a onetime
128.16 appropriation and is available until June 30,
128.17 2025.

128.18 (t) \$50,000 the first year is from the
128.19 remediation fund for the work group on PFAS
128.20 manufacturer fees and report required under
128.21 this act.

128.22 (u) \$387,000 the first year and \$90,000 the
128.23 second year are to develop and implement the
128.24 requirements for fish kills under Minnesota
128.25 Statutes, sections 103G.216 and 103G.2165.
128.26 Of this amount, up to \$331,000 the first year
128.27 and \$90,000 the second year may be
128.28 transferred to the commissioners of health,
128.29 natural resources, agriculture, and public
128.30 safety and to the Board of Regents of the
128.31 University of Minnesota as necessary to
128.32 implement those sections. The base for this
128.33 appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and beyond
128.34 is \$7,000.

129.1 (v) \$63,000 the first year and \$92,000 the

129.2 second year are for transfer to the

129.3 commissioner of health for amending the

129.4 health risk limit for PFOS. This is a onetime

129.5 appropriation and is available until June 30,

129.6 2026.

129.7 (w) \$5,000,000 the first year is for community

129.8 air-monitoring grants as provided in this act.

129.9 This is a onetime appropriation and is

129.10 available until June 30, 2027.

129.11 (x) \$2,333,000 the first year and \$2,333,000

129.12 the second year are to adopt rules and

129.13 implement air toxics emissions requirements

129.14 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.062.

129.15 The general fund appropriations are onetime

129.16 and are available until June 30, 2027. The base

129.17 for this appropriation is \$0 in fiscal year 2026

129.18 and \$1,400,000 from the environmental fund

129.19 in fiscal year 2027 and beyond.

129.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

129.21 Sec. 31. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

129.22 Subd. 7. **Resource Management and Assistance** 82,000,000 57,974,000

129.23 Appropriations by Fund

129.24 2024 2025

129.25 General 38,464,000 13,850,000

129.26 Environmental 43,536,000 44,124,000

129.27 (a) Up to \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000

129.28 the second year may be transferred from the

129.29 environmental fund to the small business

129.30 environmental improvement loan account

129.31 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993.

129.32 (b) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000

129.33 the second year are for competitive recycling

130.1 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section
130.2 115A.565. Of this amount, \$300,000 the first
130.3 year and \$300,000 the second year are from
130.4 the general fund, and \$700,000 the first year
130.5 and \$700,000 the second year are from the
130.6 environmental fund. This appropriation is
130.7 available until June 30, 2027.

130.8 (c) \$694,000 the first year and \$694,000 the
130.9 second year are from the environmental fund
130.10 for emission-reduction activities and grants to
130.11 small businesses and other
130.12 nonpoint-emission-reduction efforts. Of this
130.13 amount, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000
130.14 the second year are to continue work with
130.15 Clean Air Minnesota, and the commissioner
130.16 may enter into an agreement with
130.17 Environmental Initiative to support this effort.

130.18 (d) \$18,450,000 the first year and \$18,450,000
130.19 the second year are from the environmental
130.20 fund for SCORE block grants to counties.

130.21 (e) \$119,000 the first year and \$119,000 the
130.22 second year are from the environmental fund
130.23 for environmental assistance grants or loans
130.24 under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716.

130.25 (f) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
130.26 second year are from the environmental fund
130.27 for grants to develop and expand recycling
130.28 markets for Minnesota businesses. This
130.29 appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

130.30 (g) \$767,000 the first year and \$770,000 the
130.31 second year are from the environmental fund
130.32 for reducing and diverting food waste,
130.33 redirecting edible food for consumption, and
130.34 removing barriers to collecting and recovering

131.1 organic waste. Of this amount, \$500,000 each
131.2 year is for grants to increase food rescue and
131.3 waste prevention. This appropriation is
131.4 available until June 30, 2027.

131.5 (h) \$2,797,000 the first year and \$2,811,000
131.6 the second year are from the environmental
131.7 fund for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes,
131.8 section 473.844.

131.9 (i) \$318,000 the first year and \$324,000 the
131.10 second year are from the environmental fund
131.11 to address chemicals in products, including to
131.12 implement and enforce flame retardant
131.13 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
131.14 325F.071, and perfluoroalkyl and
131.15 polyfluoroalkyl substances in food packaging
131.16 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
131.17 325F.075. Of this amount, \$78,000 the first
131.18 year and \$80,000 the second year are
131.19 transferred to the commissioner of health.

131.20 (j) \$180,000 the first year and \$140,000 the
131.21 second year are for quantifying climate-related
131.22 impacts from projects for environmental
131.23 review. This is a onetime appropriation. This
131.24 appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

131.25 (k) \$1,790,000 the first year and \$70,000 the
131.26 second year are for accelerating pollution
131.27 prevention at small businesses. Of this amount,
131.28 \$1,720,000 the first year is for transfer to the
131.29 environmental fund for zero-interest loans
131.30 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993, to
131.31 phase out high-polluting equipment, products,
131.32 and processes and replace with new options.
131.33 This appropriation is available until June 30,
131.34 2027. This is a onetime appropriation.

132.1 (l) \$190,000 the first year and \$190,000 the
132.2 second year are to support the Greenstep Cities
132.3 program. This is a onetime appropriation. This
132.4 appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

132.5 (m) \$420,000 the first year is to complete a
132.6 study on the viability of recycling solar energy
132.7 equipment. This is a onetime appropriation
132.8 and is available until June 30, 2026.

132.9 (n) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the
132.10 second year are from the environmental fund
132.11 for Minnesota GreenCorps investment.

132.12 (o) \$4,210,000 the first year and \$210,000 the
132.13 second year are for PFAS reduction grants.
132.14 Of this amount, \$4,000,000 the first year is
132.15 for grants to industry and public entities to
132.16 identify sources of PFAS entering facilities
132.17 and to develop pollution prevention and
132.18 reduction initiatives to reduce PFAS entering
132.19 facilities, prevent releases, and monitor the
132.20 effectiveness of these projects. Priority must
132.21 be given to projects in underserved
132.22 communities. This is a onetime appropriation
132.23 and is available until June 30, 2027.

132.24 (p) \$12,940,000 the first year and \$12,940,000
132.25 the second year are for a waste prevention and
132.26 reduction grants and loan program. This is a
132.27 onetime appropriation and is available until
132.28 June 30, 2027. Of this amount in the first year,
132.29 \$7,950,000 is for waste prevention and
132.30 reduction grants and loans and \$3,000,000 is
132.31 for a grant to the owner of a biomass energy
132.32 generation plant in Shakopee that uses waste
132.33 heat from the generation of electricity in the
132.34 malting process to purchase a wood dehydrator
132.35 to facilitate disposal of wood that is infested

133.1 by the emerald ash borer. Of this amount in
133.2 the second year, \$10,950,000 is for waste
133.3 prevention and reduction grants and loans,
133.4 including \$1,000,000 for transfer to the
133.5 environmental fund for the purposes of
133.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716. By
133.7 October 1, 2024, the commissioner of the
133.8 Pollution Control Agency must report to the
133.9 chairs and ranking minority members of the
133.10 legislative committees and divisions with
133.11 jurisdiction over environment and natural
133.12 resources on the use of money appropriated
133.13 for the wood dehydrator under this paragraph.

133.14 (q) \$16,562,000 the first year is for grants to
133.15 a Minnesota nonprofit corporation that owns
133.16 a cogeneration facility that serves a St. Paul
133.17 district heating and cooling system to preserve
133.18 existing biomass energy infrastructure for
133.19 purposes of local and regional emerald ash
133.20 borer response efforts. The commissioner of
133.21 the Pollution Control Agency may require the
133.22 nonprofit corporation to charge a fee per ton
133.23 of wood waste delivered to the facility. This
133.24 is a onetime appropriation and is available
133.25 until June 30, 2030.

133.26 (r) \$1,163,000 the first year and \$1,115,000
133.27 the second year are from the environmental
133.28 fund for rulemaking and implementation of
133.29 the new PFAS requirements under Minnesota
133.30 Statutes, section 116.943. Of this amount,
133.31 \$312,000 the first year and \$468,000 the
133.32 second year are for transfer to the
133.33 commissioner of health.

133.34 (s) \$680,000 the first year is for the resource
133.35 management report required in this act. This

134.1 is a onetime appropriation and is available
134.2 until June 30, 2026.

134.3 (t) \$35,000 the second year is from the
134.4 environmental fund for the compostable
134.5 labeling requirements under Minnesota
134.6 Statutes, section 325E.046. The base for this
134.7 appropriation in fiscal year 2026 and beyond
134.8 is \$68,000 from the environmental fund.

134.9 (u) \$175,000 the first year is for the
134.10 rulemaking required under this act providing
134.11 for the safe and lawful disposal of waste
134.12 treated seed. This appropriation is available
134.13 until June 30, 2025.

134.14 (v) \$1,000,000 the first year is for a lead tackle
134.15 reduction program that provides outreach,
134.16 education, and opportunities to safely dispose
134.17 of and exchange lead tackle throughout the
134.18 state. This is a onetime appropriation and is
134.19 available until June 30, 2027.

134.20 (w) \$17,000 the first year is for rulemaking
134.21 for the capital assistance program. This is a
134.22 onetime appropriation.

134.23 (x) Any unencumbered grant and loan
134.24 balances in the first year do not cancel but are
134.25 available for grants and loans in the second
134.26 year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
134.27 section 16A.28, the appropriations
134.28 encumbered on or before June 30, 2025, as
134.29 contracts or grants for environmental
134.30 assistance awarded under Minnesota Statutes,
134.31 section 115A.0716; technical and research
134.32 assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section
134.33 115A.152; technical assistance under
134.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.52; and

135.1 pollution prevention assistance under
135.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 115D.04, are
135.3 available until June 30, 2027.

135.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

135.5 Sec. 32. **MINNESOTA SUSTAINABLE FORAGING TASK FORCE.**

135.6 Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) The task force shall consist of the following members:

135.7 (1) two members of the senate, one appointed by the majority leader of the senate and
135.8 one appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

135.9 (2) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the
135.10 house of representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of the house of
135.11 representatives;

135.12 (3) two members appointed by the Minnesota Mycological Society, of which one member
135.13 must be an owner of a small business;

135.14 (4) two members appointed by the Minnesota Foraging Alliance, of which one member
135.15 must be from an underrepresented cultural group;

135.16 (5) two scientists with expertise in botany, ecology, and environmental science appointed
135.17 by the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota;

135.18 (6) three representatives of the Department of Natural Resources involved with managing
135.19 state parks, forestry, fish and wildlife, and public lands appointed by the commissioner of
135.20 natural resources;

135.21 (7) one member of the Minnesota Ojibwe Tribe appointed by the Minnesota Indian
135.22 Affairs Council;

135.23 (8) one member of the Minnesota Dakota Tribe appointed by the Minnesota Indian
135.24 Affairs Council; and

135.25 (9) two representatives with expertise on local ecosystems, species recovery, and
135.26 sustainable harvesting appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota
135.27 Extension.

135.28 (b) A member appointed under paragraph (a) may not be a registered lobbyist.

135.29 (c) The appointing authorities must make the appointments by August 1, 2025.

135.30 Subd. 2. **Duties.** The task force must:

136.1 (1) gather and review data and information, including traditional ecological knowledge,
136.2 on the impact of foraging on species resilience, ecosystem health, and other aspects of
136.3 Minnesota's diverse biomes;

136.4 (2) review existing regulations governing foraging activities on state lands;

136.5 (3) develop recommendations for science-based, including traditional ecological
136.6 knowledge, foraging guidelines for state lands that balance public access with conservation
136.7 needs, setting limits on foraging activities only where supported by data. The
136.8 recommendations must be in the form of draft statutory or rule language and must be
136.9 consistent with Indigenous and other cultural practices and traditions;

136.10 (4) develop recommendations for increasing public understanding of sustainable foraging
136.11 practices that include safety and ecological considerations;

136.12 (5) solicit public input, when appropriate; and

136.13 (6) develop recommendations for reduced-priced foraging permits.

136.14 Subd. 3. **Administrative support; meetings.** (a) The Legislative Coordinating
136.15 Commission must provide administrative support and convene the first meeting by September
136.16 1, 2025.

136.17 (b) The commissioner of natural resources must provide subject matter resources and
136.18 expertise, including information on the management of, and flora and fauna on, state lands,
136.19 as requested by the task force.

136.20 (c) The task force must meet at regular intervals as often as necessary to accomplish the
136.21 goals enumerated under subdivision 3. Meetings of the task force are subject to the Minnesota
136.22 Open Meeting Law under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.

136.23 Subd. 4. **Chair.** The task force must elect a chair at its first meeting from among the
136.24 legislative members.

136.25 Subd. 5. **Legislative recommendations; expiration.** By February 28, 2026, the task
136.26 force must submit a written report containing its findings and recommendations to the
136.27 commissioner of natural resources and to the chairs and ranking minority members of the
136.28 legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over natural resources policy. The
136.29 recommendations in the report must be specific and actionable. The report must detail the
136.30 proposals for changes or additions to statute or rules to effectuate the task force's
136.31 recommendations. The task force expires March 15, 2026, or upon submission of the report
136.32 required by this subdivision, whichever occurs later.

137.1 Subd. 6. **Compensation; expense reimbursement.** Members of the task force appointed
137.2 under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), may receive per diem and
137.3 reimbursement for expenses as provided in the rules of their respective bodies. Other
137.4 members of the task force may be compensated and have expenses reimbursed as provided
137.5 in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 3.

137.6 Sec. 33. **MORATORIUM ON FORAGING RULES.**

137.7 The commissioner of natural resources shall not commence or complete any rule making
137.8 on foraging before July 1, 2027.

137.9 Sec. 34. **EXTENSION OF CERTAIN TIMBER PERMITS.**

137.10 If the holder of a timber permit that expires in 2025 has been unable to cut and remove
137.11 some or all of the timber described in the permit, then, notwithstanding any provisions to
137.12 the contrary in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 90, the commissioner of natural resources must
137.13 grant an extension of the permit for two years without penalty or interest upon written
137.14 request to the commissioner by the holder of the permit.

137.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

137.16 Sec. 35. **REPEALER.**

137.17 Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 116C.04, subdivision 11; 116C.991; and 116D.04,
137.18 subdivision 5b, are repealed.

137.19 **ARTICLE 5**

137.20 **STATE LANDS**

137.21 Section 1. **ADDITION TO STATE PARK.**

137.22 **[85.012] [Subd. 11] Carley State Park, Wabasha County.** The following area is added
137.23 to Carley State Park: That part of Section 32, Township 108 North, Range 11 West, Wabasha
137.24 County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the South Quarter corner stake of
137.25 said Section 32; thence North 15-1/2 degrees East along road 425 feet; thence North 17
137.26 degrees East 290 feet; thence North 53 degrees East 280 feet; thence North 17 degrees East
137.27 115 feet; thence North 6-1/2 degrees West 643 feet; thence North 72-1/2 degrees West 720
137.28 feet; thence North across river 690 feet; thence South 62 degrees East 263 feet along northerly
137.29 bank of river; thence North 250 feet to center of said Section 32; thence East 1,320 feet;
137.30 thence North 440 feet to river; thence North 54-1/2 degrees East 224 feet along center of
137.31 river; thence North 75 degrees East 192 feet; thence South 49 degrees East 115 feet; thence

138.1 North 79 degrees East 155 feet; thence North 62 degrees East 232 feet; thence North 86
138.2 degrees East 293 feet; thence North 64 degrees East 255 feet; thence South 3,368 feet, more
138.3 or less to the southeast corner of Section 32; thence West 2,643.13 feet to the place of
138.4 beginning.

138.5 EXCEPTING therefrom that portion lying West of the centerline of Wabasha County
138.6 Road No. 4 owned by the State of Minnesota and A. M. Christenson.

138.7 ALSO EXCEPTING that part of the East Half of Section 32, Township 108 North,
138.8 Range 11 West, Wabasha County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the South
138.9 Quarter corner stake of said Section 32; thence North 15-1/2 degrees East along road 425
138.10 feet; thence North 17 degrees East 290 feet; thence North 53 degrees East 280 feet; thence
138.11 South 80 degrees 02 minutes 23 seconds East 304.46 feet; thence North 6 degrees 12 minutes
138.12 49 seconds West 483.31 feet; thence South 89 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds East 386.31
138.13 feet; thence North 1 degree 39 minutes 32 seconds East 358.66 feet; thence North 36 degrees
138.14 14 minutes 35 seconds East 693.46 feet; thence North 81 degrees 03 minutes 15 seconds
138.15 East 349.81 feet; thence North 1 degree 49 minutes 43 seconds West 298.16 feet; thence
138.16 North 79 degrees 04 minutes 47 seconds East 529.39 feet; thence South 35 degrees 46
138.17 minutes 01 seconds East to the east line of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32; thence
138.18 southerly along the east line of said Southeast Quarter to the southeast corner of said
138.19 Southeast Quarter of Section 32; thence on a bearing of West along the south line of said
138.20 Southeast Quarter 2,643.13 feet to the point of beginning.

138.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

138.22 Sec. 2. **PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; AITKIN COUNTY.**

138.23 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
138.24 other law to the contrary, Aitkin County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited land
138.25 described in paragraph (c).

138.26 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
138.27 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

138.28 (c) The land to be sold is located in Aitkin County and is described as: the West 20 feet
138.29 of the East 932 feet of the South 208 feet of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter,
138.30 as in DOC 203542, Section 32, Township 46 North, Range 25 West (0.1 acres) (parcel
138.31 number 09-0-054803).

138.32 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
138.33 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

139.1 **Sec. 3. PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; AITKIN COUNTY.**

139.2 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
139.3 other law to the contrary, Aitkin County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited lands
139.4 described in paragraph (c).

139.5 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
139.6 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

139.7 (c) The land to be sold is located in Aitkin County and is described as: the East 32 feet
139.8 of the West 250 feet of Lot 5 and the East 32 feet of the West 250 feet of the North 10 feet
139.9 of Lot 3, Hill City Realty Cos Fourth Addition, Section 14, Township 52 North, Range 26
139.10 West, Aitkin County, Minnesota (0.1 acres) (parcel number 57-1-073003).

139.11 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
139.12 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

139.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

139.14 **Sec. 4. PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; ST. LOUIS COUNTY.**

139.15 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
139.16 other law to the contrary, St. Louis County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited land
139.17 described in paragraph (c).

139.18 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
139.19 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

139.20 (c) The land to be sold is located in St. Louis County and is described as:

139.21 (1) the easterly 15 feet of Lot 5, Block 47, West Duluth 6th Division, Section 7, Township
139.22 49, Range 14 (parcel number 010-4520-06505); and

139.23 (2) that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter described as follows:
139.24 beginning at the northwest corner continue due East parallel with the north boundary line
139.25 a distance of 330 feet to a point of beginning; thence due South parallel with the west
139.26 boundary line a distance of 400 feet to a point; thence due East parallel with the north
139.27 boundary line a distance of 190 feet to a point; thence due North parallel with the west
139.28 boundary a distance of 60 feet to a point; thence due East parallel with the north boundary
139.29 line a distance of 140 feet to a point; thence due North parallel with the west boundary line
139.30 a distance of 340 feet to a point; thence due West parallel with the north boundary line a
139.31 distance of 330 feet to the point of beginning, Section 14, Township 54, Range 20 (parcel
139.32 number 550-0020-02294).

140.1 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
140.2 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

140.3 **ARTICLE 6**

140.4 **ELECTRONIC WASTE AND BATTERY STEWARDSHIP**

140.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.071, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

140.6 Subdivision 1. **Remedies available.** The provisions of sections 103F.701 to 103F.755,
140.7 this chapter and chapters 114C, 115A, and 116, and sections 325E.10 to ~~325E.1251~~ 325E.12
140.8 and 325E.32 and all rules, standards, orders, stipulation agreements, schedules of compliance,
140.9 and permits adopted or issued by the agency thereunder or under any other law now in force
140.10 or hereafter enacted for the prevention, control, or abatement of pollution may be enforced
140.11 by any one or any combination of the following: criminal prosecution; action to recover
140.12 civil penalties; injunction; action to compel or cease performance; or other appropriate
140.13 action, in accordance with the provisions of said chapters and this section.

140.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

140.15 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115A.121, is amended to read:

140.16 **115A.121 TOXICS AND POLLUTION PREVENTION EVALUATION;**
140.17 **CONSOLIDATED REPORT.**

140.18 The commissioner shall prepare and adopt a report on pollution prevention activities
140.19 required in chapters 115A, 115D, and 325E. ~~The report must include activities required~~
140.20 ~~under section 115A.1320.~~ The commissioner must submit the report to the senate and house
140.21 of representatives committees having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources
140.22 by December 31, 2013, and every four years thereafter.

140.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2027.

140.24 Sec. 3. **[115A.1331] STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR CIRCUIT BOARDS,**
140.25 **BATTERIES, AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS; DEFINITIONS.**

140.26 (a) The terms used in sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 have the meanings given in this
140.27 section.

140.28 (b) "Battery" means one or more galvanic cells, including any structural members,
140.29 insulative casing, and terminals.

140.30 (c) "Board" means the Covered Products Reimbursement Board established under section
140.31 115A.1333.

141.1 (d) "Brand" means a trademark, including both a registered and an unregistered trademark;
141.2 a logo; a name; a symbol; a word; an identifier; or a traceable mark that identifies a covered
141.3 product or other electrical product and identifies the owner or licensee of the brand as the
141.4 producer of the product.

141.5 (e) "Circuit board" means a nonconductive substrate onto which one or more layers of
141.6 conductive paths have been printed or wires attached for mounting and interconnecting
141.7 electronic components, such as resistors, capacitors, diodes, transistors, integrated circuit
141.8 chips, and connecting wires. Circuit boards include printed circuit boards, printed wiring
141.9 boards, and any other style or type of circuit board.

141.10 (f) "Collection site" means a physical location where a collector collects covered products
141.11 and other electrical products from members of the public and businesses. Collection site
141.12 includes a location regardless of whether it is operated permanently, temporarily, or for
141.13 purposes of a collection event.

141.14 (g) "Collector" means a person that collects covered products and other electrical products
141.15 on behalf of the stewardship organization and receives reimbursement from the stewardship
141.16 organization for the collector's costs to collect and manage the products.

141.17 (h) "Covered battery" means a battery of any type, physical size, or energy capacity
141.18 including but not limited to batteries designed and marketed for sale or resale for use in
141.19 lawn care equipment as defined in section 181A.116, off-highway vehicles, snowmobiles,
141.20 watercraft, tools, household items, lights, or devices powered by an internal combustion
141.21 engine. A covered battery does not include:

141.22 (1) a lead acid battery subject to sections 325E.115 and 325E.1151; or

141.23 (2) a battery designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in manufacturing,
141.24 industrial, or other commercial settings.

141.25 (i) "Covered circuit board" means any circuit board except a circuit board from:

141.26 (1) a major appliance;

141.27 (2) an appliance or tool powered by electrical power of equal to or greater than 240 volts
141.28 alternating current; or

141.29 (3) an appliance or tool designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in
141.30 manufacturing, industrial, or other commercial settings.

141.31 (j) "Covered product" means:

141.32 (1) a covered circuit board;

- 142.1 (2) a covered battery;
- 142.2 (3) a cathode-ray tube; or
- 142.3 (4) a product that has a covered circuit board, a covered battery, or a cathode-ray tube
- 142.4 contained within it or otherwise attached or connected to it, except;
- 142.5 (i) a medical device meeting the definition of a device under United States Code, title
- 142.6 21, section 321(h), as of July 23, 2023, that is not designed and marketed for sale or resale
- 142.7 principally to a person for personal use;
- 142.8 (ii) any device powered by an internal combustion engine;
- 142.9 (iii) an off-highway vehicle, watercraft, or snowmobile; and
- 142.10 (iv) a motor vehicle, as defined in section 168.002.
- 142.11 (k) "Covered services" means collection, sorting, storage, transport, processing, repair,
- 142.12 refurbishment, reuse, recycling, reclamation of useful materials from, or disposal of covered
- 142.13 products, other electrical products, and residual materials.
- 142.14 (l) "De minimis producer" means a producer that, in the most recent calendar year, had
- 142.15 fewer than 100 covered products that were sold in or into the state and for which the producer
- 142.16 was responsible.
- 142.17 (m) "Facilitate a sale" means to assist a person in transferring title or possession of a
- 142.18 covered product or other electrical product, regardless of whether title or possession is ever
- 142.19 acquired by the person facilitating a sale, such as by operating an online marketplace,
- 142.20 publishing an offer for sale on a website, physically storing inventory of products, entering
- 142.21 into a contract to allow another person to list a product for sale, processing payment on
- 142.22 behalf of another person, entering into a contract with a buyer or a seller related to a sale,
- 142.23 or otherwise providing a sales process. Facilitate a sale does not include acting solely as:
- 142.24 (1) an advertiser;
- 142.25 (2) a payment processor; or
- 142.26 (3) a common carrier.
- 142.27 (n) "Full collection site" means a collection site that meets the requirements of section
- 142.28 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).
- 142.29 (o) "Household hazardous waste collection program" means a program established under
- 142.30 section 115A.96 to collect and manage household hazardous waste as defined in that section.

- 143.1 (p) "Independent auditor" means an independent and actively licensed certified public
143.2 accountant that is:
- 143.3 (1) retained by the stewardship organization;
143.4 (2) not otherwise employed by or affiliated with the stewardship organization; and
143.5 (3) qualified to conduct an audit under section 115A.1337, subdivision 5, paragraph (b),
143.6 clause (6).
- 143.7 (q) "Off-highway vehicle" has the meaning given in section 84.771.
- 143.8 (r) "Organohalogenated chemical" has the meaning given in section 325F.071.
- 143.9 (s) "Other electrical product" means an appliance or tool that is powered by electricity
143.10 provided through a flexible cord with an attached standardized plug intended for temporary,
143.11 manual connection to the electrical distribution system in a residential or commercial
143.12 structure. Other electrical product does not include:
- 143.13 (1) a covered product;
143.14 (2) a major appliance;
143.15 (3) an appliance or tool powered by electrical power of greater than 240 volts alternating
143.16 current; or
- 143.17 (4) an appliance or tool designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in
143.18 manufacturing, industrial, or other commercial settings.
- 143.19 (t) "Partial collection site" means a collection site that meets the requirements of section
143.20 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), and does not meet the requirements of paragraph
143.21 (b) of that subdivision.
- 143.22 (u) "Participant" means a producer that is named by the stewardship organization as
143.23 meeting the producer's obligations under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 to contract with
143.24 a stewardship organization and to pay for a stewardship program that meets the producer's
143.25 obligations on the producer's behalf.
- 143.26 (v) "Producer" means, with respect to a covered product or other electrical product that
143.27 is sold, including online sales; offered for sale or promotional purposes; or distributed in
143.28 or into the state:
- 143.29 (1) a person that manufactured:
- 143.30 (i) the covered product;

- 144.1 (ii) any component of the covered product if the component is also a covered product;
144.2 or
- 144.3 (iii) the other electrical product;
- 144.4 (2) a person that imported into the United States:
- 144.5 (i) the covered product;
- 144.6 (ii) any component of the covered product if the component is also a covered product;
144.7 or
- 144.8 (iii) the other electrical product; and
- 144.9 (3) a person that owns or controls or is licensed to use a brand under which the covered
144.10 product or other electrical product is sold, including online sales; offered for sale or
144.11 promotional purposes; or distributed in or into the state.
- 144.12 (w) "Responsible market" means a market for covered products and other electrical
144.13 products, for reusable or repairable components of covered products and other electrical
144.14 products, for reclaimed materials from covered products and other electrical products, or
144.15 for any other recyclable residues from covered products and other electrical products that:
- 144.16 (1) reuses, recycles, or otherwise recovers materials and disposes of contaminants in a
144.17 manner that protects the environment and minimizes risks to public health and worker health
144.18 and safety;
- 144.19 (2) complies with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, rules, ordinances, and
144.20 other laws governing environmental, health, safety, and financial responsibility;
- 144.21 (3) possesses all licenses and permits required by a federal or state agency or political
144.22 subdivision;
- 144.23 (4) if operating in the state, recycles covered products and other electrical products to
144.24 the maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b); and
- 144.25 (5) minimizes adverse impacts to environmental justice areas.
- 144.26 (x) "Snowmobile" has the meaning given in section 84.81, subdivision 3.
- 144.27 (y) "Specialized battery or circuit board recycler" means a person that, if and as
144.28 applicable, is properly authorized by the commissioner or, if operating in another state, an
144.29 equivalent state or federal governmental body, to process, repair, refurbish, facilitate reuse
144.30 of, recycle, or reclaim useful materials from covered products.

145.1 (z) "Stewardship organization" means a nonprofit organization as described in section
145.2 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that enters into a contract with producers to draft
145.3 and submit a plan for a stewardship program under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 , and
145.4 to be responsible for administering and implementing that plan on the producers' behalf.

145.5 (aa) "Stewardship plan" means a plan that is prepared according to section 115A.1335
145.6 and submitted to the commissioner by a stewardship organization.

145.7 (bb) "Stewardship program" means a system implemented by a stewardship organization
145.8 that provides and pays for covered services and all other activities described in a stewardship
145.9 plan approved by the commissioner under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4.

145.10 (cc) "Watercraft" has the meaning given in section 86B.005, subdivision 18,
145.11 notwithstanding the exceptions contained therein.

145.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

145.13 Sec. 4. **[115A.1333] COVERED PRODUCTS REIMBURSEMENT BOARD.**

145.14 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Covered Products Reimbursement Board is
145.15 established to recommend reimbursement rates to the commissioner. Except as provided in
145.16 this section, chapter 15 does not apply to the board.

145.17 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) By January 1, 2027, the commissioner must appoint the initial
145.18 membership of the Covered Products Reimbursement Board. Membership must consist of:

145.19 (1) two members representing household hazardous waste collection programs;

145.20 (2) two members representing collectors, according to paragraph (c); and

145.21 (3) four members representing and nominated by the stewardship organization.

145.22 (b) In making appointments under paragraph (a), the commissioner may not appoint
145.23 persons who are:

145.24 (1) current or elected Minnesota state representatives or senators;

145.25 (2) required to register as lobbyists under section 10A.03; or

145.26 (3) employees of the agency.

145.27 (c) Initial appointments under paragraph (a), clause (2), must represent potential
145.28 collectors. After January 1, 2028, whenever the terms of these members expire according
145.29 to subdivision 3, the new appointments must represent collectors. Members appointed under
145.30 paragraph (a), clause (2), must not represent household hazardous waste collection programs.

Subd. 3. **Terms; removal.** Members serve for a term of four years, except that one member appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (1); one member appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2); and two members appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (3), must be appointed to serve an initial term of two years, so that membership terms are staggered. Members may be reappointed to another term following the end of a term. The removal of members is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 4.

Subd. 4. **Quorum; voting.** Meetings of the board must have at least a quorum of members, consisting of six members. Recommendations of the board require the affirmative vote of at least five members.

Subd. 5. **Administrative support; facilitator.** (a) The commissioner must provide administrative support to the board. The commissioner must ensure that all activities of the board that require public notice, such as notice of meetings, agendas and materials related to agenda items, and minutes, are published on the agency's publicly accessible website. The commissioner must provide meeting space and public access for meetings conducted by telephone or interactive technology.

(b) The commissioner must contract for a professional facilitator for the board. The facilitator must schedule and chair the meetings of the board but is not a member for purposes of quorum or voting. The facilitator must ensure that all activities of the board that require public notice are timely provided to the commissioner for publication.

Subd. 6. **Meetings.** (a) The board must meet at least biannually and as necessary to meet the requirements of subdivisions 7 to 9. Meetings may be scheduled at the request of the facilitator or a majority of the members.

(b) The board must comply with the Open Meeting Law under chapter 13D.

Subd. 7. **Recommendations for reimbursement rates.** (a) By July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the board must submit to the commissioner a recommendation for reimbursement rates to collectors for the following calendar year.

(b) Recommended rates must be differentiated by methods recommended by the board under subdivision 4, such as local property lease or purchase costs, prevailing local wages, or other factors to ensure convenient collection statewide according to section 115A.1335, subdivision 3, and that all costs of collection are covered according to paragraph (c).

(c) Recommended rates must cover all costs of collecting covered products and other electrical products incurred by collectors, including at least:

(1) labor and overhead;

147.1 (2) covered services performed by a collector in accordance with section 115A.1337,
147.2 subdivision 1, paragraph (b);

147.3 (3) necessary collection and storage structures and containers as provided in section
147.4 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraph (d);

147.5 (4) employee training;

147.6 (5) necessary safety equipment, including appropriate fire protection and suppression
147.7 equipment and supplies; and

147.8 (6) any other costs determined necessary by the commissioner.

147.9 (b) In making determinations under paragraph (a), clause (6), the commissioner may
147.10 consider data submitted according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 5; the volume of
147.11 covered products collected; the estimated volume of covered products sold in or into the
147.12 state; the estimated volume of covered products disposed of in the state; and other information
147.13 related to the effectiveness of the stewardship program.

147.14 (c) The board must also consider any additional financial incentives necessary to induce
147.15 collectors to join the stewardship program in locations that would otherwise not be served,
147.16 so that the stewardship organization can meet or exceed the required convenience standards
147.17 under section 115A.1335, subdivision 3.

147.18 Subd. 8. **Review and approval of reimbursement rates.** (a) Within 90 days after
147.19 receiving a recommendation on reimbursement rates submitted under subdivision 7, the
147.20 commissioner must review the recommendation and approve or reject the recommendation.

147.21 (b) In conducting a review of a recommendation, the commissioner may consult with
147.22 interested parties.

147.23 (c) For at least 30 days and before approving a recommendation under this subdivision,
147.24 the commissioner must post the recommendation on the agency's publicly accessible website
147.25 for public review and comment.

147.26 (d) If the commissioner determines that a recommendation does not meet the requirements
147.27 of this section, the commissioner must reject the recommendation. The commissioner must
147.28 provide a written notice of determination describing the reasons for the rejection to the
147.29 board. The board must meet as necessary to submit a revised recommendation to the
147.30 commissioner.

147.31 (e) After consultation under paragraph (b) and review of public comments under
147.32 paragraph (c), if the commissioner determines that a recommendation meets the requirements

148.1 of this section, the commissioner may approve the recommendation. The commissioner
148.2 must provide a written notice of approval to the board and to the stewardship organization.
148.3 In the notice, the commissioner must specify the effective date of the approved reimbursement
148.4 rates.

148.5 (f) The stewardship organization must publish approved reimbursement rates on its
148.6 publicly accessible website within 30 days after receiving the commissioner's written notice
148.7 of approval. The commissioner may also publish the approved reimbursement rates on the
148.8 agency's publicly accessible website.

148.9 Subd. 9. **More-frequent rate changes.** The board may, for good cause, submit a
148.10 recommendation for reimbursement rates to the commissioner at less than an annual interval.
148.11 The commissioner must review the recommendation according to subdivision 8. If the
148.12 commissioner rejects the recommendation, then the previously approved reimbursement
148.13 rates for that calendar year continue to be in effect.

148.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

148.15 Sec. 5. **[115A.1335] STEWARDSHIP PLAN AND BUDGET.**

148.16 Subdivision 1. **Due date.** By October 1, 2027, all producers must contract with a single
148.17 stewardship organization to act on the producers' behalf. By that date, the stewardship
148.18 organization must submit a single stewardship plan meeting the requirements of subdivision
148.19 2 to the commissioner to review for approval or rejection.

148.20 Subd. 2. **Plan content; budget requirement.** (a) The stewardship plan must include:

148.21 (1) identification of and contact information for the stewardship organization;

148.22 (2) identification of and contact information for all other persons that the stewardship
148.23 organization has contracted, subcontracted, or partnered with to administer and implement
148.24 the stewardship program that are not participants identified in clause (3) or collectors or
148.25 persons providing covered services identified in clause (4), unless such participants,
148.26 collectors, or persons providing covered services are also in any way administering or
148.27 implementing the stewardship program beyond participation, collection, or provision of
148.28 covered services. The relationship of the other organizations and role in administration and
148.29 implementation of the stewardship program must be described;

148.30 (3) identification of and contact information for all participants in the stewardship
148.31 program;

(4) identification of and contact information for each collector; each person providing covered services for covered products or other electrical products, including any collector that will perform covered services other than collection; and each facility at which covered products and other electrical products will be managed under the stewardship plan;

(5) the address; county of location; and, in a form prescribed by the commissioner, geolocation data for each collection site to be served by the stewardship organization under the stewardship program and identification of the site as a full collection site, partial collection site, or as operated by a household hazardous waste collection program;

(6) a list of the brands covered under the stewardship program;

(7) eligibility criteria for prospective collectors of covered products and other electrical products under the stewardship program according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 3, paragraph (c);

(8) a description of how the stewardship program will accept and provide covered services and reimbursement under this section to any household hazardous waste collection program in a manner that is equal to the services and reimbursement provided to all other collectors, if the operator of the household hazardous waste collection program requests covered services and reimbursement;

(9) a description of how the stewardship program will provide convenient, statewide collection according to subdivision 3;

(10) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually monitor and ensure continuing compliance with the convenience standards under subdivision 3;

(11) a description of how the stewardship organization will provide each collector served by the stewardship program with the materials specified in section 115A.1337, subdivision 1, including specifications for appropriate containers, signage templates, and a copy of all training and educational materials to be provided;

(12) a description of how collection sites will be accessible according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 2;

(13) the performance standards for persons providing covered services for covered products and other electrical products on behalf of the stewardship organization and the oversight methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure continuing compliance with the performance standards. The performance standards must:

(i) meet the requirements of section 115A.1337, subdivision 3;

150.1 (ii) ensure that covered products and materials resulting from recycling of covered
150.2 products are managed only by specialized battery or electronics recyclers and through
150.3 responsible markets; and

150.4 (iii) ensure that other electrical products and materials resulting from recycling of other
150.5 electrical products are managed through responsible markets;

150.6 (14) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
150.7 covered products and any other electrical products that are waste for which the stewardship
150.8 organization is responsible are managed while in the state in compliance with rules adopted
150.9 under section 116.07 for managing solid waste and hazardous waste and, when outside the
150.10 state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to managing solid waste and
150.11 hazardous waste, as applicable;

150.12 (15) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
150.13 covered products and any other electrical products for which the stewardship organization
150.14 is responsible are managed in compliance with safety and health requirements for employees
150.15 administered by the Department of Labor and Industry and with fire protection requirements
150.16 administered by the Department of Public Safety while in the state and, when outside the
150.17 state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to safety and health
150.18 requirements for employees and fire protection requirements;

150.19 (16) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
150.20 covered products and other electrical products for which the stewardship organization is
150.21 responsible are transported in compliance with applicable regulations incorporated by
150.22 reference under section 221.033 for transporting hazardous materials while in the state and,
150.23 when outside the state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to
150.24 transportation of hazardous materials;

150.25 (17) a statement of indemnification by the stewardship organization to collectors for
150.26 potential liability for improper downstream management of covered products and other
150.27 electrical products or residual materials by providers of covered services contracted for by
150.28 the stewardship organization and identified in the stewardship plan under clause (3);

150.29 (18) a description of how the stewardship organization will determine the mass of covered
150.30 products and other electrical products for which it has provided covered services under the
150.31 stewardship program by county of collection and, for covered batteries and covered products
150.32 that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to
150.33 them, by battery chemistry;

- 151.1 (19) a description of the outreach and education methods and activities that the
151.2 stewardship organization will provide according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 4;
- 151.3 (20) a description of how the stewardship organization will employ at least one full-time
151.4 employee who is solely dedicated to implementing the stewardship program in this state
151.5 and serving as the primary contact between the stewardship organization and the agency;
- 151.6 (21) a description of the system by which the stewardship organization will provide
151.7 advance funding of or reimbursement to collectors in a manner that provides:
- 151.8 (i) a clear process for submitting and paying invoices;
- 151.9 (ii) reasonable timelines for reimbursement, at intervals no longer than monthly unless
151.10 otherwise agreed to by the person providing covered services to be reimbursed; and
- 151.11 (iii) a third-party mediator to resolve disputes that arise between the stewardship
151.12 organization and a person providing covered services regarding determining or paying
151.13 reimbursements;
- 151.14 (22) identification of groups of producers, such as by industry, covered product and
151.15 other electrical product type, or other method proposed by the stewardship organization,
151.16 and the proposed allocation of stewardship program costs among the groups of producers,
151.17 such that the costs of managing covered products or other electrical products produced by
151.18 a group of producers are not borne by other groups of producers;
- 151.19 (23) a description of how the stewardship organization will comply with subdivision 6,
151.20 paragraph (b);
- 151.21 (24) a description of how the stewardship organization will assist producers in complying
151.22 with the labeling requirements of section 115A.1347, subdivision 2, paragraph (a);
- 151.23 (25) a description of how the stewardship organization will ensure that covered products
151.24 and other electrical products managed under the stewardship program are recycled to the
151.25 maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b);
- 151.26 (26) a description of how the stewardship organization will incentivize investment in
151.27 processes, product design and material use, technology, and personnel training that could
151.28 raise the future maximum extent practicable for recycling described in clause (24), including
151.29 consideration of covered product reuse, repair, and product life cycle;
- 151.30 (27) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually report to the
151.31 commissioner the number, type, and volume of covered products and other electrical products

152.1 collected during each calendar year, specifying the categories of the covered products and
152.2 other electrical products and the chemistries of the covered batteries collected;

152.3 (28) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually report to the
152.4 commissioner the end management, through reuse, repair, reclamation, recycling, or disposal,
152.5 of the covered products and other electrical products shipped from collection sites under
152.6 the stewardship program during each calendar year;

152.7 (29) a description of how the stewardship organization will take action to decrease the
152.8 incidence of covered products in solid waste in the state according to section 115A.1337,
152.9 subdivision 4, paragraph (c), including providing collection opportunities under subdivision
152.10 2, paragraph (b), of that section;

152.11 (30) a description of how the stewardship organization will assist persons providing
152.12 covered services after collection to identify, segregate, and properly manage
152.13 organohalogenated chemicals contained in or separated from covered products and reduce
152.14 the prevalence of organohalogenated chemicals in products derived from recycled covered
152.15 products; and

152.16 (31) a description of how the stewardship organization will, where feasible, assist
152.17 producers in reducing the occurrence of organohalogenated chemicals in covered products.

152.18 (b) By January 1, 2028, and by April 1 each year thereafter, the stewardship organization
152.19 must submit an anticipated annual budget for the stewardship program, broken down into
152.20 the stewardship program's estimated costs for administration, collection, sorting, storage,
152.21 transportation, processing, refurbishment, repair, reuse, recycling, disposal, and
152.22 communication costs, including the cost of fees under section 115A.1339 but not including
152.23 costs for lobbying, costs associated with litigation against the state, or penalties imposed
152.24 by the state. The budget is not subject to review and approval under subdivisions 4 and 5.

152.25 Subd. 3. **Convenience standards.** (a) The stewardship plan must provide convenient,
152.26 statewide collection for all covered products that are offered to collectors by a person in the
152.27 state, regardless of:

152.28 (1) a covered product's brand;

152.29 (2) a covered battery's energy capacity or chemistry;

152.30 (3) whether the producer of a covered product is a participant in the stewardship program;
152.31 or

152.32 (4) whether the brand of a covered product is covered under the stewardship program.

- 153.1 (b) The stewardship plan must meet the following convenience standards:
- 153.2 (1) for each county with a population of 10,000 or less, maintain at least two full
- 153.3 collection sites;
- 153.4 (2) for each county with a population greater than 10,000 but less than or equal to
- 153.5 100,000, maintain at least two full collection sites and at least one additional full collection
- 153.6 site for each additional 10,000 in population above a population of 10,000;
- 153.7 (3) for each county with a population greater than 100,000, maintain at least 11 full
- 153.8 collection sites and at least one additional full collection site for each additional 50,000 in
- 153.9 population above a population of 100,000;
- 153.10 (4) maintain a full collection site located within ten miles of the household of at least
- 153.11 95 percent of the residents of the state;
- 153.12 (5) ensure no net loss in estimated collection convenience and capacity for covered
- 153.13 products of any type; and
- 153.14 (6) any additional convenience standards that the commissioner determines are necessary
- 153.15 to provide convenient, statewide collection for covered products, including operation of
- 153.16 partial collection sites and additional full collection sites.
- 153.17 (c) In making a determination under paragraph (b), clause (6), the commissioner may
- 153.18 consider data submitted according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 5; the volume of
- 153.19 covered products collected; the estimated volume of covered products sold in or into the
- 153.20 state; the estimated volume of covered products disposed of in the state; the stewardship
- 153.21 organization's plans under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (28); and other information
- 153.22 related to the effectiveness of the stewardship program.
- 153.23 Subd. 4. **Review of stewardship plan; implementation.** (a) Within 120 days after
- 153.24 receiving a complete stewardship plan submitted under this section, the commissioner must
- 153.25 determine whether the stewardship plan complies with the requirements of this section and
- 153.26 will ensure that elements required by subdivision 2, paragraph (a), will be met to the
- 153.27 maximum extent practicable. The commissioner must provide a written notice of
- 153.28 determination according to this subdivision.
- 153.29 (b) In conducting a review of a stewardship plan, the commissioner may consult with
- 153.30 interested parties.
- 153.31 (c) For at least 30 days and before approving a stewardship plan, the commissioner must
- 153.32 place the stewardship plan on the agency's publicly accessible website for public review
- 153.33 and comment.

(d) If the commissioner determines that a stewardship plan fails to meet the requirements of this section or will not ensure that elements required by subdivision 2, paragraph (a), will be met to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner must reject the stewardship plan. The commissioner must provide a written notice of determination to the stewardship organization describing the reasons for the rejection.

(e) After any consultation under paragraph (b) and review of public comments received under paragraph (c), if the commissioner determines that a stewardship plan meets the requirements of subdivision 2, the commissioner must approve the stewardship plan. The commissioner must provide a written notice of determination to the stewardship organization.

(f) The stewardship organization must publish its approved stewardship plan on its publicly accessible website within 30 days after receiving written notice of approval but is not required to publish nonpublic data as defined under chapter 13. The commissioner may publish the approved stewardship plan on the agency's publicly accessible website but must not publish nonpublic data.

(g) The stewardship organization must implement the stewardship plan approved by the commissioner, including any amendments to the stewardship plan that are approved by the commissioner according to subdivision 5, within 60 days after receiving written notice of approval.

(h) For each stewardship plan or amendment submitted to the commissioner for review, the commissioner may consider the data submitted according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 5, and other relevant information to establish requirements to improve the effectiveness, performance, and awareness of the stewardship program.

Subd. 5. Amending or terminating stewardship plan. (a) The stewardship organization may amend a stewardship plan approved under subdivision 4 without review or approval by the commissioner to make the changes specified in clauses (1) to (3). Within 30 days after adopting an amendment under this paragraph, the stewardship organization must report the amendment to the commissioner and must publish the amended stewardship plan on the stewardship organization's publicly accessible website. The stewardship organization must implement amendments made to a stewardship plan under this paragraph within 60 days after adopting the amendment. The stewardship organization may:

(1) add, terminate, or replace a collector, collection site, person providing covered services, or facility at which covered services will be performed;

(2) add or remove participants or brands covered under the stewardship plan; or

155.1 (3) change contact staff or contact staff information for the stewardship organization,
155.2 participants, collectors, persons transporting covered products or other electrical products,
155.3 or facilities to be used for storage, processing, recycling, or disposal.

155.4 (b) Except for an amendment under paragraph (a), a proposed amendment to a
155.5 stewardship plan approved under subdivision 4 must be submitted to and reviewed and
155.6 approved by the commissioner before it may be implemented by the stewardship organization.
155.7 The commissioner must review and approve or reject the proposed amendment according
155.8 to subdivision 4.

155.9 (c) The stewardship organization with an approved stewardship plan must submit an
155.10 amended stewardship plan for review at least every five years according to this subdivision
155.11 and subdivision 4 if the commissioner has not during that time approved amendments
155.12 submitted for review under paragraph (b).

155.13 (d) The stewardship organization may terminate a stewardship plan by providing at least
155.14 90 days' written notice to the commissioner and to all participants in the stewardship program.
155.15 Before the stewardship plan is terminated, each participant must meet the requirements of
155.16 section 115A.1335, subdivision 1, by contracting with a new stewardship organization,
155.17 which must submit and obtain the commissioner's approval for a stewardship plan.

155.18 (e) The commissioner may terminate a stewardship plan for good cause, such as
155.19 significant noncompliance with this section; failure to ensure that covered products and
155.20 other electrical products collected in the state are being managed in responsible markets
155.21 and according to subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (13) to (15); failure to timely submit
155.22 a stewardship plan for review according to paragraph (c); or failure to pay fees assessed
155.23 under section 115A.1339. If the commissioner terminates a stewardship plan, the
155.24 commissioner must provide the stewardship organization with written notice of termination
155.25 describing the good cause for termination. The commissioner must also notify all participants
155.26 in the stewardship program in writing using the contact information for the participants
155.27 provided in the stewardship plan.

155.28 Subd. 6. **Compliance.** (a) The stewardship organization must comply with its stewardship
155.29 plan approved by the commissioner, including any amendments to the stewardship plan
155.30 that are made according to subdivision 5, paragraph (a) or (b).

155.31 (b) The stewardship organization must comply with the reimbursement rates approved
155.32 by the commissioner.

155.33 (c) The stewardship organization must ensure that all costs of the stewardship program
155.34 are fully paid for by producers as a whole, except for de minimis producers. All costs of

156.1 the stewardship program must be allocated fairly between groups of producers without any
156.2 fee, charge, surcharge, or any other cost to:

156.3 (1) any member of the public;

156.4 (2) any business other than a producer;

156.5 (3) any collector;

156.6 (4) any person providing covered services;

156.7 (5) the state or any political subdivision;

156.8 (6) de minimis producers; or

156.9 (7) any other person who is not a producer.

156.10 (d) In implementation of paragraph (c), the stewardship organization must ensure that
156.11 costs of managing covered products and other electrical products produced by a group of
156.12 producers are not shifted to nor borne by any other group of producers.

156.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

156.14 Sec. 6. **[115A.1337] STEWARDSHIP ORGANIZATION DUTIES.**

156.15 Subdivision 1. **Duties to collectors.** (a) The stewardship organization must provide the
156.16 following to each collector:

156.17 (1) reimbursement at the rates approved by the commissioner;

156.18 (2) all covered services after the initial collection of covered products and other electrical
156.19 products by the collector;

156.20 (3) containers as described in section 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraph (d);

156.21 (4) consistent signage identifying a collection site;

156.22 (5) training for collection site employees on identifying and safely handling and storing
156.23 covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them
156.24 or otherwise attached or connected to them, including damaged, defective, or recalled
156.25 batteries, also known as DDR batteries;

156.26 (6) educational materials that address the information described in subdivision 4,
156.27 paragraph (a), clause (3), for distribution to members of the public and businesses in
156.28 Minnesota. The educational materials must be made available in English and at least the
156.29 three most frequent languages spoken at home in the state other than English, according to
156.30 the state demographer; and

157.1 (7) direction to an alternate collector whenever a collector determines and reports to the
157.2 stewardship organization, according to section 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (d),
157.3 that the collector cannot safely collect a covered product. The stewardship organization
157.4 must ensure that the covered product is collected by another collector.

157.5 (b) The stewardship organization must allow a collector to perform covered services
157.6 other than collection if the collector meets the performance standards in the stewardship
157.7 plan under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(13), and the collector
157.8 is identified in the stewardship plan as providing covered services other than collection
157.9 according to section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(4).

157.10 (c) For covered services provided under paragraph (b), the stewardship organization
157.11 must reimburse the collector for the cost of the performed covered services according to
157.12 section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(21).

157.13 (d) A collector may request the stewardship organization to add a person to provide
157.14 covered services to the stewardship plan as an amendment under section 115A.1335,
157.15 subdivision 5, paragraph (a), and the stewardship organization must consider the request if
157.16 the person meets the performance standards in the stewardship plan.

157.17 Subd. 2. **Accessibility.** (a) The stewardship organization must provide convenient,
157.18 equitable, and accessible service to all Minnesotans, including but not limited to people of
157.19 color; Minnesota Tribal governments as defined in section 10.65, subdivision 2; those that
157.20 are non-English speaking; immigrant and refugee communities; those with limited access
157.21 to transportation; and those in environmental justice areas.

157.22 (b) The stewardship program must include collection opportunities beyond those required
157.23 under section 115A.1335, subdivision 3, to better serve populations under paragraph (a),
157.24 such as additional partial collection sites, individual pickup from households, and temporary
157.25 events to provide enhanced collection availability.

157.26 (c) Where feasible, the stewardship organization must encourage establishing collection
157.27 sites in proximity to local public transit.

157.28 Subd. 3. **Oversight; eligibility of persons providing covered services.** (a) The
157.29 stewardship organization must ensure that:

157.30 (1) covered products and other electrical products managed under the stewardship
157.31 program are recycled to the maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02,
157.32 paragraph (b); and

158.1 (2) residual materials are managed in compliance with applicable hazardous waste or
158.2 solid waste requirements by:

158.3 (i) each person transporting covered products or other electrical products; and

158.4 (ii) each facility listed in the stewardship plan at which storage, processing, recycling,
158.5 or disposal of covered products and other electrical products is performed.

158.6 (b) To ensure that covered products and other electrical products are managed to the

158.7 maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b), the

158.8 commissioner may require performance standards and oversight methods in lieu of or in

158.9 addition to the performance standards and oversight methods used by a stewardship

158.10 organization under paragraph (a) and section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a),

158.11 clause(13), for persons providing covered services for covered products and other electrical

158.12 products. The commissioner may consider data submitted under subdivision 5; the availability

158.13 and feasibility of technology, processes, and methods for managing covered products and

158.14 other electrical products; and other information related to the effectiveness of the stewardship

158.15 program.

158.16 (c) The stewardship organization must allow any person that agrees to operate or

158.17 continues to operate a full collection site in compliance with section 115A.1341 and any

158.18 household hazardous waste collection program to serve as a collector. The stewardship

158.19 organization must consider allowing any person that agrees to operate or continues to operate

158.20 a partial collection site in compliance with section 115A.1341 to serve as a collector. Except

158.21 for a household hazardous waste collection program, a stewardship organization may

158.22 terminate a collector and cease payment to the collector for good cause.

158.23 Subd. 4. **Stewardship program effectiveness.** (a) To support the effectiveness of the

158.24 stewardship program, the stewardship organization must provide outreach and education

158.25 to:

158.26 (1) persons that might sell, offer for sale or promotional purposes, or distribute covered

158.27 products or other electrical products in or into the state, to inform the persons of the

158.28 requirements of section 115A.1347, subdivision 2;

158.29 (2) potential collectors and persons who are collecting covered products before the

158.30 effective date of this section to inform the collectors how to request coverage by the

158.31 stewardship program; and

158.32 (3) members of the public to raise awareness of:

159.1 (i) public health and safety and environmental risks caused by improperly charging,
159.2 storing, and disposing of covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries
159.3 contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them;

159.4 (ii) public health and environmental risks caused by improperly disposing of covered
159.5 products;

159.6 (iii) methods to safely charge and store covered batteries and covered products that have
159.7 covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them;

159.8 (iv) the benefits of repairing, reusing, and recycling covered products and other electrical
159.9 products in contrast to disposal; and

159.10 (v) the existence of the stewardship program and the ability to recycle covered products
159.11 and other electrical products at no cost, including the location and convenience of collection
159.12 sites in the state.

159.13 (b) The stewardship organization must maintain a publicly accessible website to locate
159.14 collection sites through map-based and text-based searches.

159.15 (c) The stewardship organization must, in addition to the requirements of paragraphs
159.16 (a) and (b), take action to decrease the incidence of covered products in solid waste generated
159.17 in the state as soon as practicable and to the maximum extent achievable. The commissioner
159.18 may determine the effectiveness of the stewardship program using information from waste
159.19 composition studies conducted under section 115A.412 and other information available to
159.20 the commissioner and may require the stewardship organization to submit information and
159.21 implement actions to decrease the incidence of covered products in solid waste in accordance
159.22 with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(29), and subdivision 3,
159.23 paragraph (b), clause (6), of that section.

159.24 Subd. 5. **Reporting.** (a) The stewardship organization must report an amendment to the
159.25 stewardship plan made under section 115A.1335, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), to the
159.26 commissioner within 30 days after making the amendment.

159.27 (b) By April 1 each year, the stewardship organization must report to the commissioner,
159.28 in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, on the stewardship organization's
159.29 activities during the preceding calendar year. The stewardship organization must also submit
159.30 a copy of the report to the board. The report must include:

159.31 (1) the address, county of location, and geolocation data for each collection site used by
159.32 the stewardship organization under the stewardship program during the preceding calendar
159.33 year;

(2) the number, type, and volume of covered products and other electrical products collected during each calendar year, specifying the categories of the covered products and other electrical products and the chemistries of the covered batteries collected, in accordance with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(27);

(3) the end management, through reuse, repair, reclamation, recycling, or disposal, of the covered products and other electrical products shipped from collection sites under the stewardship program, in accordance with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(28);

(4) the effectiveness of the stewardship organization's actions to decrease the incidence of covered products in solid waste in the state, in accordance with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(29), including the support of partial collection sites;

(5) a description of the actions taken by the stewardship organization regarding identification, management, and reduction in prevalence of organohalogenated chemicals in covered products under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses(30) and(31);

(6) the results of the oversight according to section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause(13), verifying that the performance standards were met by each of the persons providing covered services;

(7) a description of outreach and education activities performed by the stewardship organization during the preceding calendar year according to subdivision 4;

(8) a financial report on the stewardship program, including actual costs and funding compared to the budget for the year submitted under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (b). The financial report must include an audit report of the stewardship program by an independent auditor. The independent auditor must be selected by the stewardship organization and approved or rejected by the commissioner. If the commissioner rejects an independent auditor, the stewardship organization must select a different independent auditor for approval or rejection by the commissioner. The independent audit must meet the requirements of Accounting Standards Update 2018-08, Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958), Financial Accounting Standards Board, as amended;

(9) the proposed and actual budget for the year in which the report is submitted; and

(10) starting on the second April after the stewardship organization's first stewardship plan is approved by the commissioner, and then every third year thereafter, a performance audit of the stewardship program. The performance audit must conform to audit standards

161.1 established by the United States Government Accountability Office; the National Association
161.2 of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers; or another nationally recognized organization
161.3 approved by the commissioner.

161.4 Subd. 6. **Organization of the stewardship organization.** (a) The stewardship
161.5 organization may function as a coordinating board and contract, subcontract, or partner with
161.6 any other person to administer and implement the stewardship program.

161.7 (b) A contract, subcontract, or partnership established according to paragraph (a) must
161.8 be described under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2).

161.9 (c) Notwithstanding any contract, subcontract, or partnership established according to
161.10 paragraph (a), the stewardship organization must:

161.11 (1) remain responsible for compliance with sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347;

161.12 (2) submit a single stewardship plan meeting the requirements of sections 115A.1331
161.13 to 115A.1347;

161.14 (3) submit a single report according to subdivision 5 meeting the requirements of sections
161.15 115A.1331 to 115A.1347;

161.16 (4) serve as the single point of contact for reporting and reimbursement for:

161.17 (i) each collector;

161.18 (ii) each person providing covered services for covered products or other electrical
161.19 products, including any collector that will perform covered services other than collection;
161.20 and

161.21 (iii) each facility at which covered products and other electrical products will be managed
161.22 under the stewardship plan; and

161.23 (5) serve as the single point of contact for the agency.

161.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

161.25 Sec. 7. **[115A.1339] FEES.**

161.26 Subdivision 1. **Administrative fees.** (a) By January 1, 2028, and by July 1 each year
161.27 thereafter, the commissioner must calculate the sum of all costs that the agency incurs under
161.28 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, exclusive of recovery and management of covered
161.29 products under subdivision 2. The sum calculated for the period preceding January 1, 2028,
161.30 must include the agency's costs of implementing sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347. For

162.1 the purposes of this paragraph, costs of the board are considered costs incurred by the
162.2 agency.

162.3 (b) Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner must assess administrative
162.4 fees at an amount that is adequate to reimburse the agency's sum costs of administering
162.5 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347. The stewardship organization must pay the assessed
162.6 administrative fees by the due dates set by the commissioner.

162.7 Subd. 2. **Recovery and proper management fees.** (a) When the commissioner intends
162.8 to spend money for the recovery and proper management of covered products under section
162.9 115A.1343, subdivision 1, notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner must assess
162.10 the estimated cost of recovery and proper management of covered products to the stewardship
162.11 organization.

162.12 (b) The cost under paragraph (a) must not include any subsequent remediation of the
162.13 real properties where the covered products are located nor the cost of any environmental
162.14 assessment of the properties to determine appropriate subsequent remediation under other
162.15 law. Such costs must not be paid from any funds assessed, collected, or appropriated under
162.16 this section. The stewardship organization must pay the assessed recovery and management
162.17 fee by the due date set by the commissioner.

162.18 (c) If, after the covered products have been recovered and properly managed, the actual
162.19 cost of recovery and proper management of the recovered products is less than the fee paid
162.20 by the stewardship organization, the commissioner must refund the excess payment. If the
162.21 cost of recovery and proper management exceeds the fee paid by the stewardship
162.22 organization, the commissioner must assess the stewardship organization for the deficit.
162.23 The stewardship organization must pay the assessed recovery and management fee deficit
162.24 by the due date set by the commissioner.

162.25 Subd. 3. **Disposition of fees.** The total amount of net fees collected under this section
162.26 must not exceed the amount necessary to reimburse agency costs as calculated under
162.27 subdivisions 1 and 2. All fees received under subdivisions 1 and 2 must be deposited in the
162.28 state treasury and credited to a product stewardship account in the special revenue fund.
162.29 The amount collected under this section is annually appropriated to the commissioner to
162.30 implement and enforce sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347.

162.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2027.

163.1 **Sec. 8. [115A.1341] COLLECTOR DUTIES.**

163.2 **Subdivision 1. Accepting covered products.** (a) All collectors must accept covered
163.3 products without imposing a fee, charge, surcharge, or other cost to any person other than
163.4 the stewardship organization.

163.5 (b) At a full collection site, a collector must accept from any person at least ten covered
163.6 products daily of any brand, any type, any physical size, and, in the case of covered batteries
163.7 and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached
163.8 or connected to them, any energy capacity or chemistry, unless the collector determines a
163.9 specific covered product cannot be safely collected by the collector at a specific collection
163.10 site at a specific time under paragraph (e). A full collection site must be open to receiving
163.11 covered products at least 12 operating hours per week, 50 weeks each calendar year.

163.12 (c) At a partial collection site, a collector must accept from any person covered products
163.13 of any brand, but may limit the number, type, physical size, and, in the case of covered
163.14 batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise
163.15 attached or connected to them, the energy capacity or chemistry of the covered battery of
163.16 the covered products accepted.

163.17 (d) A household hazardous waste collection program may accept covered products at
163.18 any collection site it operates. The household hazardous waste collection program may limit
163.19 the persons from which it will accept covered products and may limit the number, type,
163.20 physical size, and, in the case of covered batteries and covered products that have covered
163.21 batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them, the energy
163.22 capacity or chemistry of the covered battery of the covered products accepted. The
163.23 stewardship organization may count a collection site operated by the household hazardous
163.24 waste collection program as a full collection site when demonstrating compliance with the
163.25 convenience standards of section 115A.1335, subdivision 3, if the household hazardous
163.26 waste collection program voluntarily agrees in writing with the stewardship organization
163.27 to comply with paragraph (b) at the site.

163.28 (e) A collector that determines that it cannot safely accept a specific covered product
163.29 must document the reason for not accepting the covered product and immediately notify
163.30 the stewardship organization of the nonacceptance in order to allow the stewardship
163.31 organization to arrange for alternate collection of the covered product under section
163.32 115A.1337, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (7).

163.33 **Subd. 2. Accepting other electrical products.** A collector may accept other electrical
163.34 products from a person. If a collector accepts other electrical products, the collector may

164.1 not impose a fee, charge, surcharge, or other cost to any person other than the stewardship
164.2 organization.

164.3 Subd. 3. **Storing accepted products.** A collector must manage and store all accepted
164.4 covered products and other electrical products safely and in compliance with section
164.5 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraphs (c) and (d).

164.6 Subd. 4. **Training.** A collector must ensure and document that training is provided for
164.7 collection site employees on identifying and safely handling and storing covered batteries
164.8 and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached
164.9 or connected to them, including damaged, defective, or recalled batteries, also known as
164.10 DDR batteries. The collector may provide the training or may receive training from the
164.11 stewardship organization or the stewardship organization's representative.

164.12 Subd. 5. **Recordkeeping.** A collector must maintain the following records for at least
164.13 three years and make them available to the commissioner for inspection:

164.14 (1) records of covered products and other electrical products accepted at a collection
164.15 site;

164.16 (2) records of covered products and other electrical products shipped from a collection
164.17 site; and

164.18 (3) documentation of employee training. The three-year record retention period for
164.19 employee documentation begins on the day following the last day the employee worked for
164.20 the collector.

164.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

164.22 Sec. 9. **[115A.1343] COVERED PRODUCTS RECOVERY AND PROPER**
164.23 **MANAGEMENT.**

164.24 Subdivision 1. **Recovery and proper management.** (a) In addition to any authority
164.25 granted by other law and without limiting that authority, whenever the commissioner
164.26 determines that covered products have been abandoned, improperly disposed of, or stored
164.27 on real property within the state in a manner not in compliance with sections 115A.1331 to
164.28 115A.1347 or with applicable rules adopted under section 116.07, subdivision 2, paragraph
164.29 (d), or 4, paragraph (g), the commissioner may issue an order under section 115.071,
164.30 subdivision 5; 116.07, subdivision 9; or 116.072, subdivision 1, requiring a person responsible
164.31 for the abandonment, improper disposal, or noncompliant storage of the covered products
164.32 to recover and properly manage the covered products according to sections 115A.1331 to

165.1 115A.1347 and applicable rules. An order under this paragraph must notify the person of
165.2 the provisions of this subdivision.

165.3 (b) If a person that receives an order under paragraph (a) fails to complete the ordered
165.4 actions to recover and properly manage the covered products within the time specified in
165.5 the order, then after that time or upon expiration of the appeal period for the order, whichever
165.6 is later, the commissioner must notify the stewardship organization in writing of:

165.7 (1) the commissioner's determination that the covered products have been abandoned,
165.8 improperly disposed of, or stored in a noncompliant manner;

165.9 (2) the name of the person that was issued the order under paragraph (a) and the location
165.10 of the covered products;

165.11 (3) the actions required to recover and properly manage the covered products; and

165.12 (4) the amount of time that the stewardship organization may, with the consent of the
165.13 person, attempt to complete the actions to recover and properly manage the covered products
165.14 on behalf of the person.

165.15 (c) If the stewardship organization intends to recover and properly manage the covered
165.16 products, the stewardship organization must notify the commissioner of its intent and submit
165.17 a plan to recover and properly manage the covered products to the commissioner. The
165.18 stewardship organization must comply with its submitted recovery and management plan.

165.19 (d) If, after the period specified in paragraph (b), the ordered actions to recover and
165.20 properly manage the covered products have not been completed, or upon earlier notice from
165.21 the stewardship organization that it does not intend to take the actions, the commissioner
165.22 may recover and properly manage the covered products. The commissioner must estimate
165.23 the cost for a person contracted to the agency to perform the recovery and management.
165.24 The commissioner must assess the estimated cost to the stewardship organization according
165.25 to section 115A.1339, subdivision 2. After the stewardship organization pays the assessed
165.26 fee, the commissioner may recover and properly manage the covered products. Money
165.27 appropriated to the commissioner from the product stewardship account may be spent by
165.28 the commissioner to recover and properly manage the covered products.

165.29 (e) In addition to the authority to enter upon any public or private property for the purpose
165.30 of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations under section 115A.06,
165.31 the commissioner or any designee or agent may enter upon the property to recover covered
165.32 products when acting under this subdivision.

166.1 Subd. 2. **Limited private right of action for recovery and proper management.** (a)

166.2 The stewardship organization that recovers and properly manages covered products under
166.3 subdivision 1, paragraph (c), may maintain a civil action against a person issued an order
166.4 to recover and properly manage those covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (a).
166.5 The stewardship organization is entitled to damages under this paragraph of twice its actual
166.6 cost of recovery and proper management of the covered products. Additional amounts
166.7 recoverable under this paragraph include an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs.

166.8 (b) When the stewardship organization is assessed and pays the cost to recover and
166.9 properly manage covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (d), and section
166.10 115A.1339, subdivision 2, the stewardship organization may maintain a civil action against
166.11 a person issued an order to recover and properly manage those covered products under
166.12 subdivision 1, paragraph (a). The stewardship organization is entitled to damages under this
166.13 paragraph equal to the cost of recovery and proper management of covered products assessed
166.14 by the commissioner to the stewardship organization. Additional amounts recoverable under
166.15 this paragraph include an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs.

166.16 (c) The commissioner may not be a party to or be required to provide assistance or
166.17 otherwise participate in a civil action authorized under this subdivision unless subject to a
166.18 subpoena before a court of jurisdiction.

166.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

166.20 Sec. 10. **[115A.1345] OTHER AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES.**

166.21 Subdivision 1. **Limited private right of action against producers.** (a) Except as
166.22 provided in paragraph (d), the stewardship organization may maintain a civil action against
166.23 one or more producers, except a de minimis producer, to recover a portion of the stewardship
166.24 organization's costs and additional amounts according to this subdivision.

166.25 (b) Damages recoverable under this subdivision may not exceed a fair share of the actual
166.26 costs incurred by the plaintiff stewardship organization in managing covered products or
166.27 other electrical products of a defendant producer subject to section 115A.1347, subdivision
166.28 2, paragraph (b), and of covered products or other electrical products of other producers
166.29 that were not participants. Additional amounts recoverable under this subdivision include
166.30 an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs. If a defendant producer did not participate
166.31 in the stewardship program established under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 during the
166.32 period in which covered products or other electrical products of the defendant producer
166.33 were managed by the plaintiff stewardship organization, a punitive sum of up to three times
166.34 the damages awarded may be assessed.

(c) A plaintiff stewardship organization may establish a defendant producer's fair share of the plaintiff's actual costs by providing the court with information establishing the process by which the defendant producer's share of stewardship program costs would have been allocated had the defendant producer been a participant in the program or paid its allocated share if it was a participant. The plaintiff stewardship organization may use data from producers similar in covered product, financial status, or market share to the defendant producer to provide the information.

(d) An action may not be commenced under this subdivision against a potential defendant producer until 60 days after the plaintiff stewardship organization provides to all potential defendants a written notice of the claim setting forth the amount of the claim and the basis for the calculation of the amount.

(e) No action may be brought under this subdivision against a person other than a producer.

(f) The commissioner may not be a party to or be required to provide assistance or otherwise participate in a civil action authorized under this subdivision unless subject to a subpoena before a court of jurisdiction.

Subd. 2. **Conduct authorized.** A producer or stewardship organization that organizes covered services for covered products or other electrical products under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 is immune from liability for the conduct under state laws relating to antitrust, restraint of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce only to the extent that the conduct is necessary to plan and implement the producer's or stewardship organization's chosen system.

Subd. 3. **Duty to provide information.** Upon request of the commissioner for purposes of implementing sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, a person must furnish to the commissioner any information that the person has or may reasonably obtain.

Subd. 4. **Contracts.** (a) Any person awarded a contract under chapter 16C for purchase or lease of covered products or other electrical products that is found to be in violation of sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 is subject to the following sanctions:

(1) the contract must be voided if the commissioner of administration determines that the potential adverse impact to the state is exceeded by the benefit obtained from voiding the contract; and

(2) the contractor is subject to suspension and disbarment under Minnesota Rules, part 1230.1150.

(b) If the attorney general establishes that any money, property, or benefit was obtained by a contractor as a result of violating sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, the court may, in addition to any other remedy, order the disgorgement of the unlawfully obtained money, property, or benefit.

Subd. 5. **Multistate implementation.** The commissioner may participate in establishing a regional multistate organization or compact to assist in carrying out the requirements of sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347.

Subd. 6. **Rules.** The commissioner may adopt rules to implement sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347. The 18-month time limit under section 14.125 does not apply to rulemaking under this subdivision.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

Sec. 11. **[115A.1347] DISPOSAL PROHIBITIONS; BATTERY LABELING; COVERED PRODUCT SALES RESTRICTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Disposal prohibition.** (a) A person may not place a covered product into:

(1) solid waste; or

(2) a recycling container that a collector has not clearly marked for use for collecting covered products.

(b) A person must manage a covered product that is discarded by delivering the covered product to a collection site or to a recycling facility for covered products.

(c) Until recycled, covered products are not exempt from any applicable rules adopted under section 116.07 for managing hazardous waste.

(d) Covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them must be stored in containers that are:

(1) designed, constructed, and used in a manner to suppress battery fires in the container or to prevent ignition of materials outside the container; and

(2) held in structures compliant with the local fire code.

Subd. 2. **Labeling and sale; requirements.** (a) A person may not sell, including online sales; offer for sale or promotional purposes; distribute in or into the state; or facilitate a sale of a covered battery or covered product that has a covered battery contained within it or otherwise attached or connected to it unless the covered battery and covered product is

labeled to identify the chemistry employed to store energy in the battery. Labeling under this paragraph must be permanently marked on or affixed to the covered battery and covered product and must use either language or graphics that identifies the battery chemistry employed or a QR code compliant with International Organization of Standardization 18004:2015, that accesses equivalent data via the Internet that is available without fee or requirement to create an account.

(b) A person may not sell, including online sales; offer for sale or promotional purposes; distribute in or into the state; or facilitate a sale of a covered product or other electrical product unless the producer of the covered product or other electrical product is named as a participant in a stewardship plan published under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4, paragraph (f), or the brand is named as covered in a stewardship plan published under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4, paragraph (f), and the stewardship plan has not been terminated under section 115A.1335, subdivision 5.

(c) This subdivision does not apply to isolated and occasional sales of a covered product or other electrical product that are not made in the normal course of business, as exempted from sales tax under section 297A.67, subdivision 23.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to sales, including online sales; offers for sale or promotional purposes; distribution; or facilitation of a sale of a used covered product or used other electrical product.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115A.554, is amended to read:

115A.554 AUTHORITY OF SANITARY DISTRICTS.

A sanitary district has the authorities and duties of counties within the district's boundary for purposes of sections 115A.0716; 115A.46, subdivisions 4 and 5; 115A.48; 115A.551; 115A.552; 115A.553; 115A.919; 115A.929; 115A.93; 115A.96, subdivision 6; ~~115A.961~~; 116.072; 375.18, subdivision 14; 400.04; 400.06; 400.07; 400.08; 400.16; and 400.161.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.92, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Mercury thermometers prohibited.** (a) A manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer may not sell or distribute at no cost a thermometer containing mercury that was manufactured after June 1, 2001.

170.1 (b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to an electronic thermometer with a battery containing
170.2 mercury if the battery is in compliance with ~~section 325E.125~~ subdivision 81.

170.3 (c) A manufacturer is in compliance with this subdivision if the manufacturer:

170.4 (1) has received an exclusion or exemption from a state that is a member of the Interstate
170.5 Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) for replacement parts when no
170.6 alternative is available or for an application when no feasible alternative is available;

170.7 (2) submits a copy of the approved exclusion or exemption to the commissioner; and

170.8 (3) meets all of the requirements in the approved exclusion or exemption for the
170.9 manufacturer's activities within the state.

170.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

170.11 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.92, is amended by adding a subdivision to
170.12 read:

170.13 **Subd. 81. Ban; mercury in batteries.** A person may not sell, offer for sale, or distribute
170.14 in or into the state:

170.15 (1) an alkaline manganese battery that contains mercury that is not a button cell
170.16 nonrechargeable battery;

170.17 (2) a nonrechargeable button cell battery that contains more than 25 milligrams of
170.18 mercury; or

170.19 (3) a dry cell battery containing a mercuric oxide electrode.

170.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

170.21 Sec. 15. **REPEALER.**

170.22 Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 115A.1310, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
170.23 11, 12, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, and 20; 115A.1312; 115A.1314; 115A.1316;
170.24 115A.1318; 115A.1320; 115A.1322; 115A.1323; 115A.1324; 115A.1326; 115A.1328;
170.25 115A.1330; 115A.9155; 115A.9157, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9; 115A.961,
170.26 subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 325E.125; and 325E.1251, are repealed.

170.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

ARTICLE 7

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING REFORM

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.542, is amended to read:

115.542 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICLY OWNED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this section, the following terms have the meanings given:

(1) "permit" means a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit or state disposal system (SDS) permit; and

(2) "permit applicant" means a person or entity submitting an application for a new permit or renewal, modification, or revocation of an existing permit for a publicly owned wastewater treatment facility.

Subd. 2. **Applicability.** This section applies to all draft permits and permits for publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities for which the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency makes a preliminary determination whether to issue or deny.

Subd. 3. **Prepublic notice review requirements.** Unless waived by the permit applicant, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must provide a permit applicant with a copy of the draft permit and any fact sheets required by agency rules at least 30 days before the distribution and public notice of the permit application and preliminary determination.

Subd. 4. **Permitting efficiency Public notice requirements.** The commissioner must prepare and issue a public notice of a completed application and the commissioner's preliminary determination as to whether the permit should be issued or denied. The public comment period must be at least 60 days for permit applications under this section but may be reduced to 30 days if:

(1) a request for the reduction is made by the permit applicant; and

(2) the commissioner approves the request based on consideration of public or Tribal interest in the permit action.

Subd. 5. **Permitting efficiency.** Notwithstanding section 116.03, it is the goal of the state that tier 2 permits for publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities be issued or denied within 210 days following submission of a permit application.

172.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.03, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

172.2 Subd. 2b. **Permitting efficiency.** (a) It is the goal of the state that environmental and
172.3 resource management permits be issued or denied within 90 days for tier 1 permits or 150
172.4 days for tier 2 permits following submission of a permit application. The commissioner of
172.5 ~~the Pollution Control Agency shall~~ must establish management systems designed to achieve
172.6 the goal. For the purposes of this section, "tier 1 permits" are permits that do not require
172.7 individualized actions or public comment periods, and "tier 2 permits" are permits that
172.8 require individualized actions or public comment periods. Goals established in this paragraph
172.9 do not apply to permit applications required due to agency enforcement actions.

172.10 (b) The commissioner ~~shall~~ must prepare an annual permitting efficiency report that
172.11 includes statistics on meeting the tier 2 goal in paragraph (a) and the criteria for tier 2 by
172.12 permit categories. The report must also provide information on consultants regarding
172.13 achievement of the performance standards under paragraph (c), clauses (1) to (4). The report
172.14 ~~is due~~ must be submitted to the governor and to the chairs and ranking minority members
172.15 of the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over environment
172.16 policy and finance by October 1 August 1 each year and must be posted on the agency's
172.17 website. Each report must include:

172.18 (1) for each permit applications application that have has not met the goal, the report
172.19 ~~must state the reasons for not meeting the goal. In stating the reasons for not meeting the~~
172.20 ~~goal, the commissioner shall separately identify delays~~ an explanation of whether the delay
172.21 was caused by the responsiveness of the proposer, lack of staff, scientific or technical
172.22 disagreements, or the level of public engagement. The report must specify;

172.23 (2) for each permit that has not met the goal, the number of days from initial submission
172.24 of the application to the day of determination that the application is complete. The report
172.25 must aggregate;

172.26 (3) a summary of the data for the year reporting period and assess an assessment of
172.27 whether program or system changes are necessary to achieve the tier 2 goal. The report
172.28 ~~must be posted on the agency's website and submitted to the governor and the chairs and~~
172.29 ~~ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees having~~
172.30 ~~jurisdiction over environment policy and finance. in paragraph (a);~~

172.31 (4) a statement of the number of tier 2 permits completed within the reporting period
172.32 and, immediately following in parentheses, a statement of the percentage of total applications
172.33 received for that tier 2 permit category that the number represents, stated separately for
172.34 industrial and municipal permits; and

173.1 (5) for permits that did not meet the goal due to lack of staff, a combined estimate of
173.2 the aggregate staff resources that would have been necessary for all affected permits to meet
173.3 the goal.

173.4 (c) The commissioner ~~shall~~ must allow electronic submission of environmental review
173.5 and permit documents to the agency.

173.6 (d) Within 30 business days of application for a permit subject to paragraph (a), the
173.7 commissioner ~~of the Pollution Control Agency shall~~ must notify the permit applicant, in
173.8 writing, ~~whether the application is complete or incomplete. If the commissioner determines~~
173.9 ~~that an application is incomplete, the notice to the applicant must enumerate~~ of all
173.10 deficiencies, while citing specific provisions of the applicable rules and statutes, and must
173.11 advise the applicant on how the deficiencies can be remedied. The applicant shall have five
173.12 business days to remedy all identified deficiencies before the commissioner determines that
173.13 the application is complete or incomplete. If the commissioner determines that the application
173.14 is complete, the ~~notice~~ commissioner must confirm the application's tier 1 or tier 2 permit
173.15 status. If the commissioner believes that a complete application for a tier 2 construction
173.16 permit cannot be issued within the 150-day goal, the commissioner must provide notice to
173.17 the applicant with the commissioner's notice that the application is complete and, upon
173.18 request of the applicant, provide the permit applicant with a schedule estimating when the
173.19 agency will begin drafting the permit and issue the public notice of the draft permit. This
173.20 paragraph does not apply to an application for a permit that is subject to a grant or loan
173.21 agreement under chapter 446A.

173.22 (e) The commissioner must credential consultants who meet the requirements of this
173.23 paragraph and must provide a logo or similar indicator with the credential that can be used
173.24 by a consultant in marketing their services. For purposes of this section, "consultant" means
173.25 a third-party professional representing a facility owner or operator to prepare or assist in
173.26 preparing a permit application or other similar documentation required by the commissioner
173.27 for authorizations under chapters 115 to 116. A consultant is credentialed on January 1 each
173.28 odd-numbered year if, in the preceding two years, the consultant:

173.29 (1) submitted permit applications deemed complete under paragraph (d) at a rate of at
173.30 least 80 percent;

173.31 (2) when applicable, met agreed-upon deadlines as part of a plan designed to increase
173.32 the coordination and efficiency of regulatory activities, such as a plan described under
173.33 section 116.035;

174.1 (3) did not represent an owner or operator to prepare or assist in preparing a permit
174.2 application or other similar documentation when the owner or operator received a citation
174.3 under section 116.073, subdivision 1, paragraph (b); and

174.4 (4) was not found in violation of Minnesota Rules, part 7000.0300, relating to duty of
174.5 candor.

174.6 (f) If, after notifying the permit applicant that the application is complete, the
174.7 commissioner determines that additional information is needed, the commissioner must
174.8 notify the applicant. Upon notice under this paragraph, counting days toward the 90- or
174.9 150-day goal described in paragraph (a) stops until the applicant has responded with the
174.10 additional information. Once the applicant has responded with all the additional information
174.11 required, counting resumes from where it stopped. The applicant has 30 business days to
174.12 provide the additional information to the commissioner, but the commissioner may extend
174.13 the time upon the applicant's request.

174.14 ~~(e)~~ (g) For purposes of this subdivision, "permit professional" means an individual not
174.15 employed by the Pollution Control Agency who:

174.16 (1) has a professional license issued by the state of Minnesota in the subject area of the
174.17 permit;

174.18 (2) has at least ten years of experience in the subject area of the permit; and

174.19 (3) abides by the duty of candor applicable to employees of the Pollution Control Agency
174.20 under agency rules and complies with all applicable requirements under chapter 326.

174.21 ~~(f)~~ (h) Upon the agency's request, an applicant relying on a permit professional must
174.22 participate in a meeting with the agency before submitting an application:

174.23 (1) at least two weeks prior to the preapplication meeting, the applicant must submit at
174.24 least the following:

174.25 (i) project description, including, but not limited to, scope of work, primary emissions
174.26 points, discharge outfalls, and water intake points;

174.27 (ii) location of the project, including county, municipality, and location on the site;

174.28 (iii) business schedule for project completion; and

174.29 (iv) other information requested by the agency at least four weeks prior to the scheduled
174.30 meeting; and

174.31 (2) during the preapplication meeting, the agency ~~shall~~ must provide for the applicant
174.32 at least the following:

- 175.1 (i) an overview of the permit review program;
- 175.2 (ii) a determination of which specific application or applications will be necessary to
175.3 complete the project;
- 175.4 (iii) a statement notifying the applicant if the specific permit being sought requires a
175.5 mandatory public hearing or comment period;
- 175.6 (iv) a review of the timetable established in the permit review program for the specific
175.7 permit being sought; and
- 175.8 (v) a determination of what information must be included in the application, including
175.9 a description of any required modeling or testing.
- 175.10 ~~(g)~~ (i) The applicant may select a permit professional to undertake the preparation of
175.11 the permit application and draft permit.
- 175.12 ~~(h)~~ (j) If a preapplication meeting was held, the agency ~~shall~~ must, within seven business
175.13 days of receipt of an application, notify the applicant and submitting permit professional
175.14 that the application is complete or is denied, specifying the deficiencies of the application.
- 175.15 ~~(i)~~ (k) Upon receipt of notice that the application is complete, the permit professional
175.16 ~~shall~~ must submit to the agency a timetable for submitting a draft permit. The permit
175.17 professional ~~shall~~ must submit a draft permit on or before the date provided in the timetable.
175.18 Within 60 days after the close of the public comment period, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must
175.19 notify the applicant whether the permit can be issued.
- 175.20 ~~(j)~~ (l) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify:
- 175.21 (1) any requirement of law that is necessary to retain federal delegation to or assumption
175.22 by the state; or
- 175.23 (2) the authority to implement a federal law or program.
- 175.24 ~~(k)~~ (m) The permit application and draft permit ~~shall~~ must identify or include as an
175.25 appendix all studies and other sources of information used to substantiate the analysis
175.26 contained in the permit application and draft permit. The commissioner ~~shall~~ must request
175.27 additional studies, if needed, and the permit applicant ~~shall~~ must submit all additional studies
175.28 and information necessary for the commissioner to perform the commissioner's responsibility
175.29 to review, modify, and determine the completeness of the application and approve the draft
175.30 permit.

176.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

176.2 Subd. 4a. **Permits.** (a) The Pollution Control Agency may issue, continue in effect or
176.3 deny permits, under such conditions as it may prescribe for the prevention of pollution, for
176.4 the emission of air contaminants, or for the installation or operation of any emission facility,
176.5 air contaminant treatment facility, treatment facility, potential air contaminant storage
176.6 facility, or storage facility, or any part thereof, or for the sources or emissions of noise
176.7 pollution. The Pollution Control Agency may issue separate permits for constructing a
176.8 facility described in this paragraph and for its operation, except for a facility required to
176.9 complete a mandatory environmental impact statement under Minnesota Rules, part
176.10 4410.4400. The Pollution Control Agency must prioritize these permits in a manner that
176.11 minimizes the time required to construct and begin operation of the permitted facility while
176.12 complying with state and federal requirements.

176.13 (b) The Pollution Control Agency may also issue, continue in effect or deny permits,
176.14 under such conditions as it may prescribe for the prevention of pollution, for the storage,
176.15 collection, transportation, processing, or disposal of waste, or for the installation or operation
176.16 of any system or facility, or any part thereof, related to the storage, collection, transportation,
176.17 processing, or disposal of waste.

176.18 (c) The agency may not issue a permit to a facility without analyzing and considering
176.19 the cumulative levels and effects of past and current environmental pollution from all sources
176.20 on the environment and residents of the geographic area within which the facility's emissions
176.21 are likely to be deposited, provided that the facility is located in a community in a city of
176.22 the first class in Hennepin County that meets all of the following conditions:

176.23 (1) is within a half mile of a site designated by the federal government as an EPA
176.24 superfund site due to residential arsenic contamination;

176.25 (2) a majority of the population are low-income persons of color and American Indians;

176.26 (3) a disproportionate percent of the children have childhood lead poisoning, asthma,
176.27 or other environmentally related health problems;

176.28 (4) is located in a city that has experienced numerous air quality alert days of dangerous
176.29 air quality for sensitive populations between February 2007 and February 2008; and

176.30 (5) is located near the junctions of several heavily trafficked state and county highways
176.31 and two one-way streets which carry both truck and auto traffic.

(d) The Pollution Control Agency may revoke or modify any permit issued under this subdivision and section 116.081 whenever it is necessary, in the opinion of the agency, to prevent or abate pollution.

(e) The Pollution Control Agency has the authority for approval over the siting, expansion, or operation of a solid waste facility with regard to environmental issues. However, the agency's issuance of a permit does not release the permittee from any liability, penalty, or duty imposed by any applicable county ordinances. Nothing in this chapter precludes, or shall be construed to preclude, a county from enforcing land use controls, regulations, and ordinances existing at the time of the permit application and adopted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 366.10 to 366.181, or sections 394.21 to 394.37, or 462.351 to 462.365, with regard to the siting, expansion, or operation of a solid waste facility.

(f) Except as prohibited by federal law, a person may commence construction, reconstruction, replacement, or modification of any facility prior to the issuance of a construction permit by the agency.

(g) For the purposes of this subdivision, the Pollution Control Agency may require the owners and operators of any emission facility, air containment treatment facility, treatment facility, potential air containment storage facility, or storage facility, or any part thereof, to conduct air dispersion modeling of air contaminants.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, subdivision 4d, is amended to read:

Subd. 4d. **Permit fees.** (a) The agency may collect permit fees in amounts not greater than those necessary to cover the reasonable costs of developing, reviewing, and acting upon applications for agency permits and implementing and enforcing the conditions of the permits pursuant to agency rules. Permit fees shall not include the costs of litigation. The fee schedule must reflect reasonable and routine direct and indirect costs associated with permitting, implementation, and enforcement. The agency may impose an additional enforcement fee to be collected for a period of up to two years to cover the reasonable costs of implementing and enforcing the conditions of a permit under the rules of the agency. Any money collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the environmental fund.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the agency shall collect an annual fee from the owner or operator of all stationary sources, emission facilities, emissions units, air contaminant treatment facilities, treatment facilities, potential air contaminant storage facilities, or storage facilities subject to a notification, permit, or license requirement under this chapter, subchapters I and V of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., or rules adopted thereunder. The annual fee shall be used to pay for all direct and

178.1 indirect reasonable costs, including legal costs, required to develop and administer the
178.2 notification, permit, or license program requirements of this chapter, subchapters I and V
178.3 of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., or rules
178.4 adopted thereunder. Those costs include the reasonable costs of reviewing and acting upon
178.5 an application for a permit; implementing and enforcing statutes, rules, and the terms and
178.6 conditions of a permit; emissions, ambient, and deposition monitoring; preparing generally
178.7 applicable regulations; responding to federal guidance; modeling, analyses, and
178.8 demonstrations; preparing inventories and tracking emissions; and providing information
178.9 to the public about these activities.

178.10 (c) The agency shall set fees that:

178.11 (1) will result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph
178.12 (b), of an amount not less than \$25 per ton of each volatile organic compound; pollutant
178.13 regulated under United States Code, title 42, section 7411 or 7412 (section 111 or 112 of
178.14 the federal Clean Air Act); and each pollutant, except carbon monoxide, for which a national
178.15 primary ambient air quality standard has been promulgated;

178.16 (2) may result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph
178.17 (b), of an amount not less than \$25 per ton of each pollutant not listed in clause (1) that is
178.18 regulated under this chapter or air quality rules adopted under this chapter; and

178.19 (3) shall collect, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph (b), the amount
178.20 needed to match grant funds received by the state under United States Code, title 42, section
178.21 7405 (section 105 of the federal Clean Air Act).

178.22 The agency must not include in the calculation of the aggregate amount to be collected
178.23 under clauses (1) and (2) any amount in excess of 4,000 tons per year of each air pollutant
178.24 from a source. The increase in air permit fees to match federal grant funds shall be a surcharge
178.25 on existing fees. The commissioner may not collect the surcharge after the grant funds
178.26 become unavailable. In addition, the commissioner shall use nonfee funds to the extent
178.27 practical to match the grant funds so that the fee surcharge is minimized.

178.28 (d) To cover the reasonable costs described in paragraph (b), the agency shall provide
178.29 in the rules promulgated under paragraph (c) for an increase in the fee collected in each
178.30 year by the percentage, if any, by which the Consumer Price Index for the most recent
178.31 calendar year ending before the beginning of the year the fee is collected exceeds the
178.32 Consumer Price Index for the calendar year 1989. For purposes of this paragraph the
178.33 Consumer Price Index for any calendar year is the average of the Consumer Price Index for
178.34 all-urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor, as of the close

179.1 of the 12-month period ending on August 31 of each calendar year. The revision of the
179.2 Consumer Price Index that is most consistent with the Consumer Price Index for calendar
179.3 year 1989 shall be used.

179.4 (e) Any money collected under paragraphs (b) to (d) must be deposited in the
179.5 environmental fund and must be used solely for the activities listed in paragraph (b).

179.6 (f) Permit applicants who wish to construct, reconstruct, or modify a project may ~~offer~~
179.7 request expedited permitting under this paragraph. An applicant requesting expedited
179.8 permitting under this paragraph must agree to reimburse the agency for the costs of staff
179.9 time or consultant services needed to expedite the preapplication process and permit
179.10 development process through the final decision on the permit, including the analysis of
179.11 environmental review documents. The reimbursement ~~shall be~~ is in addition to permit
179.12 application fees imposed by law. ~~When the agency determines that it needs additional~~
179.13 ~~resources to develop the permit application in an expedited manner, and that expediting the~~
179.14 ~~development is consistent with permitting program priorities, the agency may accept the~~
179.15 ~~reimbursement.~~ The commissioner must give the applicant an estimate of the timeline and
179.16 costs to be incurred by the commissioner. The estimate must include a brief description of
179.17 the tasks to be performed, a schedule for completing the tasks, and the estimated cost for
179.18 each task. If the applicant agrees to the estimated timeline and costs negotiated with the
179.19 commissioner, the applicant and the commissioner must enter into a written agreement
179.20 ~~detailing the estimated costs for the expedited permit decision-making process to be incurred~~
179.21 ~~by the agency to proceed accordingly.~~ The agreement must also identify staff anticipated
179.22 to be assigned to the project. The agreement may provide that, if permitting is completed
179.23 ahead of the schedule set forth in the written agreement, the commissioner may retain any
179.24 fees that would have been due if the permitting had taken the time contemplated in the
179.25 written agreement. Fees retained by the commissioner under this paragraph are appropriated
179.26 to the commissioner for administering the commissioner's permitting duties. The
179.27 commissioner must not issue a permit until the applicant has paid all fees in full. The
179.28 commissioner must refund any unobligated balance of fees paid. Reimbursements accepted
179.29 by the agency are appropriated to the agency for the purpose of developing the permit or
179.30 analyzing environmental review documents. Reimbursement by a permit applicant shall
179.31 precede and not be contingent upon issuance of a permit; shall not affect the agency's decision
179.32 on whether to issue or deny a permit, what conditions are included in a permit, or the
179.33 application of state and federal statutes and rules governing permit determinations; and shall
179.34 not affect final decisions regarding environmental review.

179.35 (g) The fees under this subdivision are exempt from section 16A.1285.

180.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

180.2 Subd. 2a. **When prepared.** (a) Where there is potential for significant environmental
180.3 effects resulting from any major governmental action, the action must be preceded by a
180.4 detailed environmental impact statement prepared by the responsible governmental unit.
180.5 The environmental impact statement must be an analytical rather than an encyclopedic
180.6 document that describes the proposed action in detail, analyzes its significant environmental
180.7 impacts, discusses appropriate alternatives to the proposed action and their impacts, and
180.8 explores methods by which adverse environmental impacts of an action could be mitigated.
180.9 The environmental impact statement must also analyze those economic, employment, and
180.10 sociological effects that cannot be avoided should the action be implemented. To ensure its
180.11 use in the decision-making process, the environmental impact statement must be prepared
180.12 as early as practical in the formulation of an action.

180.13 (b) The board shall by rule establish categories of actions for which environmental
180.14 impact statements and for which environmental assessment worksheets must be prepared
180.15 as well as categories of actions for which no environmental review is required under this
180.16 section. A mandatory environmental assessment worksheet is not required for the expansion
180.17 of an ethanol plant, as defined in section 41A.09, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b), or the
180.18 conversion of an ethanol plant to a biobutanol facility or the expansion of a biobutanol
180.19 facility as defined in section 41A.15, subdivision 2d, based on the capacity of the expanded
180.20 or converted facility to produce alcohol fuel, but must be required if the ethanol plant or
180.21 biobutanol facility meets or exceeds thresholds of other categories of actions for which
180.22 environmental assessment worksheets must be prepared. The responsible governmental unit
180.23 for an ethanol plant or biobutanol facility project for which an environmental assessment
180.24 worksheet is prepared is the state agency with the greatest responsibility for supervising or
180.25 approving the project as a whole.

180.26 (c) A mandatory environmental impact statement is not required for a facility or plant
180.27 located outside the seven-county metropolitan area that produces less than 125,000,000
180.28 gallons of ethanol, biobutanol, or cellulosic biofuel annually, or produces less than 400,000
180.29 tons of chemicals annually, if the facility or plant is: an ethanol plant, as defined in section
180.30 41A.09, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b); a biobutanol facility, as defined in section 41A.15,
180.31 subdivision 2d; or a cellulosic biofuel facility. A facility or plant that only uses a cellulosic
180.32 feedstock to produce chemical products for use by another facility as a feedstock is not
180.33 considered a fuel conversion facility as used in rules adopted under this chapter.

180.34 (d) The responsible governmental unit shall promptly publish notice of the completion
180.35 of an environmental assessment worksheet by publishing the notice in at least one newspaper

181.1 of general circulation in the geographic area where the project is proposed, by posting the
181.2 notice on a website that has been designated as the official publication site for publication
181.3 of proceedings, public notices, and summaries of a political subdivision in which the project
181.4 is proposed, or in any other manner determined by the board and shall provide copies of
181.5 the environmental assessment worksheet to the board and its member agencies. Comments
181.6 on the need for an environmental impact statement may be submitted to the responsible
181.7 governmental unit during a 30-day period following publication of the notice that an
181.8 environmental assessment worksheet has been completed. The responsible governmental
181.9 unit may extend the 30-day comment period for an additional 30 days one time. Further
181.10 extensions of the comment period may not be made unless approved by the project's proposer.
181.11 The responsible governmental unit's decision on the need for an environmental impact
181.12 statement must be based on the environmental assessment worksheet and the comments
181.13 received during the comment period, and must be made within 15 days after the close of
181.14 the comment period. The board's chair may extend the 15-day period by not more than 15
181.15 additional days upon the request of the responsible governmental unit.

181.16 (e) An environmental assessment worksheet must also be prepared for a proposed action
181.17 whenever material evidence accompanying a petition ~~by not less than 100 individuals who~~
181.18 ~~reside or own property in the state~~, submitted before the proposed project has received final
181.19 approval by the appropriate governmental units, demonstrates that, because of the nature
181.20 or location of a proposed action, there may be potential for significant environmental effects.
181.21 Petitions may be submitted by:

181.22 (1) a Minnesota Tribal government as defined under section 10.65, subdivision 2; or

181.23 (2) not less than 100 individuals who reside or own property in the state.

181.24 (f) Petitions requesting the preparation of an environmental assessment worksheet under
181.25 paragraph (e) must be submitted to the board. The chair of the board or designee shall
181.26 determine the appropriate responsible governmental unit and forward the petition to it. A
181.27 decision on the need for an environmental assessment worksheet must be made by the
181.28 responsible governmental unit within 15 days after the petition is received by the responsible
181.29 governmental unit. The board's chair or designee may extend the 15-day period by not more
181.30 than 15 additional days upon request of the responsible governmental unit.

181.31 ~~(f)~~ (g) Except in an environmentally sensitive location where Minnesota Rules, part
181.32 4410.4300, subpart 29, item B, applies, the proposed action is exempt from environmental
181.33 review under this chapter and rules of the board, if:

181.34 (1) the proposed action is:

- 182.1 (i) an animal feedlot facility with a capacity of less than 1,000 animal units; or
- 182.2 (ii) an expansion of an existing animal feedlot facility with a total cumulative capacity
- 182.3 of less than 1,000 animal units;
- 182.4 (2) the application for the animal feedlot facility includes a written commitment by the
- 182.5 proposer to design, construct, and operate the facility in full compliance with Pollution
- 182.6 Control Agency feedlot rules; and
- 182.7 (3) the county board holds a public meeting for citizen input at least ten business days
- 182.8 before the Pollution Control Agency or county issuing a feedlot permit for the animal feedlot
- 182.9 facility unless another public meeting for citizen input has been held with regard to the
- 182.10 feedlot facility to be permitted. The exemption in this paragraph is in addition to other
- 182.11 exemptions provided under other law and rules of the board.
- 182.12 ~~(g)~~ (h) The board may, before final approval of a proposed project, require preparation
- 182.13 of an environmental assessment worksheet by a responsible governmental unit selected by
- 182.14 the board for any action where environmental review under this section has not been
- 182.15 specifically provided for by rule or otherwise initiated.
- 182.16 ~~(h)~~ (i) An early and open process must be used to limit the scope of the environmental
- 182.17 impact statement to a discussion of those impacts that, because of the nature or location of
- 182.18 the project, have the potential for significant environmental effects. The same process must
- 182.19 be used to determine the form, content, and level of detail of the statement as well as the
- 182.20 alternatives that are appropriate for consideration in the statement. In addition, the permits
- 182.21 that will be required for the proposed action must be identified during the scoping process.
- 182.22 Further, the process must identify those permits for which information will be developed
- 182.23 concurrently with the environmental impact statement. The board shall provide in its rules
- 182.24 for the expeditious completion of the scoping process. The determinations reached in the
- 182.25 process must be incorporated into the order requiring the preparation of an environmental
- 182.26 impact statement.
- 182.27 ~~(i)~~ (j) The responsible governmental unit shall, to the extent practicable, avoid duplication
- 182.28 and ensure coordination between state and federal environmental review and between
- 182.29 environmental review and environmental permitting. Whenever practical, information
- 182.30 needed by a governmental unit for making final decisions on permits or other actions required
- 182.31 for a proposed project must be developed in conjunction with the preparation of an
- 182.32 environmental impact statement. When an environmental impact statement is prepared for
- 182.33 a project requiring multiple permits for which two or more agencies' decision processes
- 182.34 include either mandatory or discretionary hearings before a hearing officer before the

183.1 agencies' decision on the permit, the agencies may, notwithstanding any law or rule to the
183.2 contrary, conduct the hearings in a single consolidated hearing process if requested by the
183.3 proposer. All agencies having jurisdiction over a permit that is included in the consolidated
183.4 hearing shall participate. The responsible governmental unit shall establish appropriate
183.5 procedures for the consolidated hearing process, including procedures to ensure that the
183.6 consolidated hearing process is consistent with the applicable requirements for each permit
183.7 regarding the rights and duties of parties to the hearing, and shall use the earliest applicable
183.8 hearing procedure to initiate the hearing. All agencies having jurisdiction over a permit
183.9 identified in the draft environmental assessment worksheet scoping document must begin
183.10 reviewing any permit application upon publication of the notice of preparation of the
183.11 environmental impact statement.

183.12 ~~(j)~~ (k) An environmental impact statement must be prepared and its adequacy determined
183.13 within 280 days after notice of its preparation unless the time is extended by consent of the
183.14 parties or by the governor for good cause. The responsible governmental unit shall determine
183.15 the adequacy of an environmental impact statement, unless within 60 days after notice is
183.16 published that an environmental impact statement will be prepared, the board chooses to
183.17 determine the adequacy of an environmental impact statement. If an environmental impact
183.18 statement is found to be inadequate, the responsible governmental unit has 60 days to prepare
183.19 an adequate environmental impact statement.

183.20 ~~(k)~~ (l) The proposer of a specific action may include in the information submitted to the
183.21 responsible governmental unit a preliminary draft environmental impact statement under
183.22 this section on that action for review, modification, and determination of completeness and
183.23 adequacy by the responsible governmental unit. A preliminary draft environmental impact
183.24 statement prepared by the project proposer and submitted to the responsible governmental
183.25 unit must identify or include as an appendix all studies and other sources of information
183.26 used to substantiate the analysis contained in the preliminary draft environmental impact
183.27 statement. The responsible governmental unit shall require additional studies, if needed,
183.28 and obtain from the project proposer all additional studies and information necessary for
183.29 the responsible governmental unit to perform its responsibility to review, modify, and
183.30 determine the completeness and adequacy of the environmental impact statement.

183.31 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

183.32 Subd. 2b. **Project prerequisites.** (a) If an environmental assessment worksheet or an
183.33 environmental impact statement is required for a governmental action under subdivision

184.1 2a, a project may not be started and a final governmental decision may not be made to grant
184.2 a permit, approve a project, or begin a project, until:

184.3 (1) a petition for an environmental assessment worksheet is dismissed;

184.4 (2) a negative declaration has been issued on the need for an environmental impact
184.5 statement;

184.6 (3) the environmental impact statement has been determined adequate; or

184.7 (4) a variance has been granted from making an environmental impact statement by the
184.8 environmental quality board.

184.9 (b) Nothing in this subdivision precludes a local unit of government from beginning to
184.10 review a feedlot permit application for a feedlot subject to environmental review under this
184.11 chapter.

184.12 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

184.13 Subd. 5a. **Rules.** The board shall, by January 1, 1981, promulgate rules in conformity
184.14 with this chapter and the provisions of chapter 15, establishing:

184.15 (1) the governmental unit which shall be responsible for environmental review of a
184.16 proposed action;

184.17 (2) the form and content of environmental assessment worksheets;

184.18 (3) a scoping process in conformance with subdivision 2a, paragraph ~~(h)~~ (i);

184.19 (4) a procedure for identifying during the scoping process the permits necessary for a
184.20 proposed action and a process for coordinating review of appropriate permits with the
184.21 preparation of the environmental impact statement;

184.22 (5) a standard format for environmental impact statements;

184.23 (6) standards for determining the alternatives to be discussed in an environmental impact
184.24 statement;

184.25 (7) alternative forms of environmental review which are acceptable pursuant to
184.26 subdivision 4a;

184.27 (8) a model ordinance which may be adopted and implemented by local governmental
184.28 units in lieu of the environmental impact statement process required by this section, providing
184.29 for an alternative form of environmental review where an action does not require a state
184.30 agency permit and is consistent with an applicable comprehensive plan. The model ordinance
184.31 shall provide for adequate consideration of appropriate alternatives, and shall ensure that

185.1 decisions are made in accordance with the policies and purposes of Laws 1980, chapter
185.2 447;

185.3 (9) procedures to reduce paperwork and delay through intergovernmental cooperation
185.4 and the elimination of unnecessary duplication of environmental reviews;

185.5 (10) procedures for expediting the selection of consultants by the governmental unit
185.6 responsible for the preparation of an environmental impact statement; and

185.7 (11) any additional rules which are reasonably necessary to carry out the requirements
185.8 of this section.

185.9 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.045, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

185.10 Subdivision 1. **Assessment.** The board must by rule adopt procedures to:

185.11 (1) assess the proposer of a specific action for the responsible governmental unit's
185.12 reasonable costs of preparing, reviewing, and distributing the environmental impact statement.
185.13 The costs must be determined by the responsible governmental unit according to the rules
185.14 adopted by the board; and

185.15 (2) authorize a responsible governmental unit to allow a proposer of a specific action to
185.16 prepare a draft environmental impact statement according to section 116D.04, subdivision
185.17 2a, paragraph ~~(k)~~ (l).

185.18 Sec. 9. **SCOPING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET NOT**
185.19 **REQUIRED FOR PROJECTS THAT REQUIRE A MANDATORY**
185.20 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.**

185.21 (a) The Environmental Quality Board must amend Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2100, as
185.22 follows:

185.23 (1) to provide that an environmental assessment worksheet does not need to be prepared
185.24 for a project that falls within a mandatory environmental impact statement category under
185.25 Minnesota Rules, part 4410.4400, or other applicable law; and

185.26 (2) to provide that a scoping process undertaken under Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2100,
185.27 must be completed no later than 280 days after the process begins.

185.28 (b) The board may use the good-cause exemption under Minnesota Statutes, section
185.29 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules under this section, and Minnesota Statutes,
185.30 section 14.386, does not apply except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

186.1 **Sec. 10. STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REVISIONS.**

186.2 The commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must seek approval from the federal
186.3 Environmental Protection Agency for revisions to the state's federal Clean Air Act state
186.4 implementation plan if changes are needed to reflect the requirements of Minnesota Statutes,
186.5 section 116.07, subdivision 4a, as amended by this act.

186.6 **Sec. 11. REPORT ON USE OF AUTHORITY TO EXTEND TIMELINE FOR**
186.7 **CERTAIN AGENCY ACTIONS.**

186.8 By October 1, 2027, the Board of Water and Soil Resources must report to the chairs
186.9 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
186.10 environment and natural resources policy on the number of extensions under Minnesota
186.11 Statutes, section 15.99, subdivision 3, paragraph (f), that are made for any determination
186.12 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 103G.221 to 103G.2375, between July 1, 2025, and June
186.13 30, 2027. A local government unit must supply the board with information necessary to
186.14 prepare the report required by this section."

186.15 Amend the title accordingly