



Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 2011 CAPITAL INVESTMENT FACT SHEET \$ 72,900,000

It is needed because

We have an opportunity to create a better future for Minnesota by targeting investments that enhance Minnesota's economic recovery by creating jobs and supporting local economies while also conserving our natural resources. This initiative will optimize the state's triple bottom line – a strong economy, a healthy environment, and vibrant communities.

Major program elements

Maintaining Strong Infrastructure:

Maintaining strong infrastructure ensures the health and safety of Minnesota's citizens by removing hazards, reduces costs by taking care of the state's capital assets, increases the energy efficiency of buildings, creates and supports jobs, and provides conservation benefits. Asset preservation projects are construction-ready, are located throughout the state, and would put over 1000 people to work within 45 days of receiving bids.

Flood Hazard Mitigation (\$28.0M)

The goal of flood hazard mitigation is public safety and the long-term protection of local economies. The Flood Hazard Mitigation Program provides technical and financial assistance to local units of government to implement projects that reduce flood damages in the state. Flood hazard mitigation has proven to be very cost-effective. Despite major strides in reducing repetitive and catastrophic flood losses in the state, considerable needs remain for additional flood protection. This appropriation will finish major phases of projects and provide needed protection from flooding.

- Priorities are those communities with the greatest flood risk.
- Project locations - primarily communities in the Red River Valley, including Ada, Moorhead, Oakport Township, Crookston, Roseau, Oslo, Breckenridge, Granite Falls and others.

- Key measures and outcomes – hundreds of homes will have increased protection from flooding.

Asset Preservation (\$19.0M):

DNR has 2,761 buildings with a replacement value of \$500M. Continual investment in state buildings and infrastructure is required to preserve the asset, increase productivity and ensure safety and accessibility. These investments can also reduce operating costs; increase energy efficiency in buildings and improve service to the public. DNR's 207 sites are located in every area of the state. Priority considerations are: 1. safety, such as well or septic repair, furnace replacement, flooring replacement, hazard materials abatement, building code and ADA compliance; 2. building integrity issues such as roof repair/replacement, tuckpointing, flashing repair and energy retrofits; and 3. building envelope repair including door, window, siding replacement, staining. If these projects are left unattended, the value of the state's investment diminishes and repairs become more extensive and costly. Work is often done by local contractors in the area of the DNR sites.

- Priorities are the projects with the greatest risk, and as outlined above.
- Project location – statewide at most of our 207 sites.
- Key measures and outcomes – Over 2,000 construction projects addressing asset preservation needs will be done.

Coon Rapids Dam Renovation (\$16.0M)

This project is a grant to the dam owner, Three Rivers Park District. The Coon Rapids Dam could be an important barrier to aquatic invasives and is in need of major renovation to assure the safety of the dam and to accomplish the invasives goal. Maintenance of the 800 publicly owned dams is an area of infrastructure that must be addressed to assure our water resources are maintained.

- Priority is to address the aquatic invasives issue before it is too late.
- Project location – Coon Rapids.
- Key measures and outcomes – barrier to aquatic invasives is improved and the dam’s foundation and gates will be repaired.

Investing in the States Natural Resources Economic Engine:

Ground Water Monitoring and Observation Wells (\$0.6M): Improves the existing ground water monitoring network of 750 wells, promotes economic recovery by providing information needed to guide growth and development, and by creating jobs for licensed well drillers – with approximately 90% of this request directed to contracts.

- Priorities are areas of potential water use conflicts
- Project locations - statewide, such as Moorhead, Park Rapids, Broton, Marshall.
- Key measures and outcomes – Monitoring network expanded by about 100 wells and data will be available for planning and decisions.

Roads and Bridges (\$4.8M):

The DNR is responsible for over 2500 miles of roads and has 100 bridges that are over 100 years old. Maintaining the transportation infrastructure is necessary to provide safe access to forests, parks, trails and wildlife management areas.

- Priorities are based on inspections and the highest priority is those sites where use has been restricted.
- Project locations - statewide such as Pine Island Forest, Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area, and Bearhead State Park.
- Key measures and outcomes – Improved safe access on over 50 miles of DNR managed roads and about 10 culvert/bridge replacements.

Lake Vermillion State Park Development (\$4.5M):

State parks play an important role in Minnesota’s outdoor recreation tourism industry. This request would

allow DNR to provide public access, day use and some primitive overnight opportunities at Lake Vermillion and Soudan Underground Mine state parks, including park infrastructure (drinking water, wastewater treatment, power), lakeside and interior day-use opportunities (picnic areas, parking, trails, carry-in canoe launch) overnight camping opportunities (camper cabins and paddle-/boat-in campsite clusters), and a visitor contact station/parks’ office for cooperative management of Soudan Underground Mine and Lake Vermillion state parks.

- Priority is to develop the site so access is provided and to begin design and construction of infrastructure for future phases.
- Project location – near Tower.
- Key measures and outcomes - to provide some additional recreational opportunities by the fall of 2011.

For further information contact:

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