

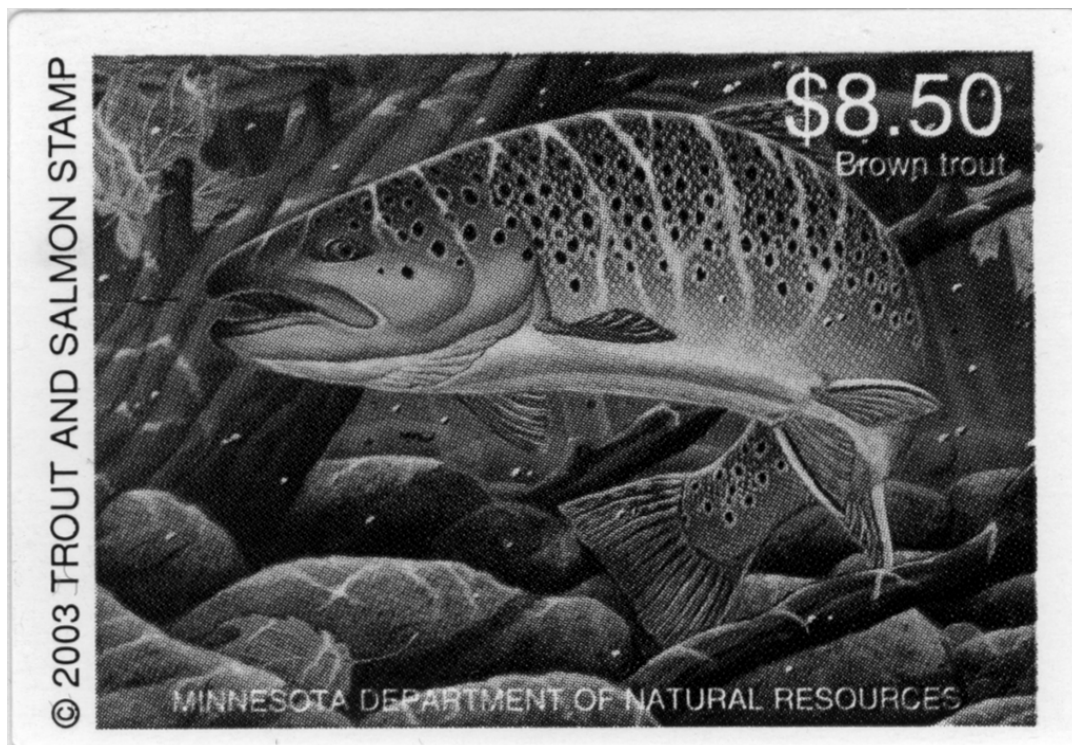


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Natural Resources

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Expenditures of the Trout & Salmon Stamp Revenues

Fiscal Year 2003



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Trout and Salmon Management Account

The creation of the Trout and Salmon Management Account and how money in the fund can be used are described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 3. The annual fee for the trout and salmon license validation is found in M.S. 97A.475, subd. 10. The fee has been \$8.50 since 1998. Effective March 1, 2004 the fee increased to \$10.00.

Use of Trout and Salmon Stamp funds is described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 3;

(a) Ninety percent of the revenue from trout and salmon stamps must be credited to the trout and salmon management account. Money in the account may be used only for:

- (1) the development, restoration, maintenance, and preservation of trout streams and lakes;
- (2) rearing of trout and salmon and stocking of trout and salmon in streams and lakes and Lake Superior;
- (3) acquisition of easements and fee title along trout waters;
- (4) (4) identifying easement and fee title areas along trout waters; and
- (5) research and special management projects on Lake Superior and the anadromous portions of its tributaries.

(b) Money in the account may not be used for costs unless they are directly related to a specific parcel of land or body of water under paragraph (a) or to specific fish rearing activities under paragraph (a), clause (2).

Appropriation

FY03 Direct Appropriation	\$671,000
Carry forward spending authority from FY02	\$198,720
Spending Authority for FY03	<u>\$869,720</u>

Expenditures

Development, restoration, maintenance and preservation of trout streams and lakes	\$208,955
Fish culture and stocking	\$349,401
Acquisition of easements	\$242,463
Identifying easements	\$8,839
Research and special management projects on Lake Superior	<u>\$44,768</u>
	\$854,426
Unused spending authority canceled to the account balance	\$15,294

Development, Restoration, Maintenance and Preservation of Trout Streams and Lakes

Trout Stream Habitat Improvement and Maintenance

Many of Minnesota's trout streams and riparian areas have become degraded as a result of poor land use resulting in the decline or elimination of trout populations. Trout stream habitat improvement includes the placement of fish cover structures (large rock, undercover banks, woody debris), bank stabilization, riffle protection and rehabilitation, and other techniques to increase the abundance and size structure of the trout populations. Cooperative projects with volunteers from trout angling groups were completed on a number of streams.

Maintenance of habitat projects is important to ensure that the structures are functioning as they were designed. Other activities that fall under habitat maintenance are: planning for future projects, reconnaissance of past projects for future maintenance work, removal of beaver and beaver dams, writing habitat project completion reports and maintenance of equipment.

Table 1. A summary of trout stream habitat improvement and maintenance projects funded with Trout and Salmon Stamp fund in FY03.

	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Habitat Improvement	\$40,495
Habitat Maintenance	\$166,428
Total	\$206,923

The total cost of habitat improvement and maintenance on trout streams in FY03 from all funding sources was \$393,201. A list of the streams and the amount of Trout and Salmon Stamp expenditures are shown in Appendix A.

Lake Reclamation

Trout management in small inland lakes is a very popular program in Minnesota. A number of fish species are not compatible with trout, which results in lower survival of trout. Lake reclamation involves the removal of an existing fish population before the introduction of one or more trout species.

Two lakes in northeast Minnesota were reclaimed in FY03 using Trout and Salmon Stamp funds. The total cost to reclaim these lakes was \$30,440.

Table 2. Lakes managed for trout that were chemically treated to remove competing fish populations and restocked with trout.

Area	Lakes	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Grand Marais	Hogback and Scarp Lakes	\$2,032

Scarp was stocked with rainbow trout and Hogback was stocked with rainbow trout and splake.

Fish Culture and Stocking

Minnesota DNR operates five coldwater hatcheries that produce approximately 3 million trout and salmon that are stocked in lakes and streams. Activities listed in table 3 are separated into two sections: 1) activities within the hatchery; and 2) the costs of transporting the fish to lakes and streams. Table 3 shows only those activities funded with Trout and Salmon Stamp funds and are only part of the coldwater culture and stocking program. The total cost of coldwater culture and stocking from all funding sources in FY03 was \$1,994,613.

Table 3. Fish culture and stocking expenditures from the Trout and Salmon Management Account in FY03.

	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Hatchery Operations	
Spawning	\$19,857
Incubation	\$3,399
Nursery	\$58,631
Grow out	\$81,998.
Brood stock	\$9,939.
Water quality monitoring	\$5,983
Trout food	\$126,505
Headquarters operations	\$131
Stocking Activities	
Lake Superior	\$2,078
Anadromous streams	\$2,080
Inland streams	\$2,957
Inland lakes	\$29,590
Fish transport maintenance	\$6,253
Total	\$349,401

Acquisitions of Easements

In cooperation with willing landowners, the DNR has established 587 miles of public fishing easements along Minnesota's trout streams. Money for purchasing easements comes from a variety of funding sources, including the Trout and Salmon Stamp fund, the Environmental Natural Resources Trust Fund (state lottery), Heritage funds (in lieu of sales tax on state lottery), State Bonding, and funds from the sale of angling licenses.

Generally easement corridors encompass 66 feet of land and water on either side of the centerline of the stream. Easements permit angler access, provide corridor protection, and allow the DNR to conduct habitat improvement activities if needed. Landowners retain ownership of the land and all rights not restricted by the easement.

Table 4. Trout streams easements purchased and miscellaneous expenses for FY03. Examples of miscellaneous expenses are: title and abstract costs, legal costs, technical services, and part-time labor to post easement signs.

Stream	County	Stream Length (feet)	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Hindamen Creek	Brown	6,831	\$34,471
Maple Creek	Fillmore	3,450	\$33,653
Root River, South Branch	Fillmore	5,000	\$88,000
Gooseberry River	Lake	2,522	\$16,690
Whitewater River, Middle Branch	Olmsted	9,015	\$55,863
Miscellaneous Expenses			\$13,786
Total		26,818	\$242,463

Table 5 lists all of the easements purchased on trout streams in FY03. A total of \$894,781 was spent on the purchase of 81,171 feet (15.4 miles) of trout stream easements. Trout Stamp Funds comprised 27% of the total expenditure for the purchase of trout stream easements.

Table 5. A complete list of trout streams easements purchased in FY03 and the amount spent by funding source.

Stream	County	Cost	Fund	Easement length in feet
Elbow Lake Creek	Becker	\$23,223	Game & Fish Operations	3,300
Sucker Creek	Becker	\$3,792	LCMR and RIM	1,785
Hindeman Creek - parcel 1	Brown	\$19,803	Trout Stamp	1,530
Hindeman Creek - parcel 2	Brown	\$29,473	Heritage	2,447
Hindeman Creek - parcel 3 *	Brown	\$3,365	Trout Stamp	184
Hindeman Creek - parcel 4	Brown	\$32,528	Heritage and Trout Stamp	2,670
Cedar Valley	Fillmore	\$29,070	LCMR	2,575
Maple Creek	Fillmore	\$35,666	Trout Stamp	3,450
Root River, South Branch - parcel 19	Fillmore	\$74,459	Heritage and Game & Fish Operations	6,100
Root River, South Branch - parcel 45	Fillmore	\$124,035	Trout Stamp and Heritage	9,015
Root River, South Branch - parcel 51	Fillmore	\$80,005	LCMR	7,538
Root River, South Branch - parcel 55	Fillmore	\$101,523	LCMR	7,485
Wisel Creek - parcel 15	Fillmore	\$46,122	LCMR	3,860
Beaver Creek, West	Houston	\$18,733	Game & Fish Operations and Heritage	1,855
Goosberry River	Lake	\$22,323	Trout Stamp	2,522
Whitewater River, Middle Branch	Olmsted	\$57,268	Trout Stamp and Game & Fish Operations	5,000
Sand Creek - parcel 1	Pine	\$27,760	Heritage and Game & Fish Operations	4,857
Sand Creek - parcel 2 **	Pine	\$3,319	Heritage	3,763
Sand Creek - parcel 3	Pine	\$68,127	Heritage and Gift Account	2,405
Spring Creek - parcel 15	Wabasha	\$43,738	LCMR	4,240
Spring Creek - parcel 9	Wabasha	\$25,140	LCMR	2,200
Rush River	Winona	\$25,309	LCMR	2,390
		\$894,781		81,171

* \$27,120 was spent in FY02

** \$17,030 was donated

Posting Signs on Easement Boundaries

Signs are posted to help anglers locate the boundaries of easements on trout streams. The Duluth Area Fisheries Office hired a part time employee to fill in for some of the permanent staff who posted the easement signs (Table 6).

Table 6. Trout stamp expenditures for posting signs on easement boundaries in FY03.

Area	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Duluth	\$8,839

Lake Superior Special Management Projects

The Lake Superior fish populations have undergone dramatic changes since the mid-1900s due to over-fishing, introduction of non-native species, pollution, and land use changes in the watershed. Projects listed in Table 7 are part of the implementation of the 1995 "Fisheries Management Plan for the Minnesota Waters of Lake Superior".

Table 7. Special management projects on Lake Superior and anadromous streams that were funded from the Trout and Salmon Management Account in FY03.

Project	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Water temperature monitoring on anadromous streams	\$2,679
Fin clipping hatchery reared Kamloop and steelhead trout	\$8,037
Measuring and weighing fish at the anadromous fish traps	\$16,069
Survey coaster brook trout habitat	\$5,711
Development of a model to determine the total allowable catch of lake herring in Lake Superior	\$12,200
Summer creel survey on Lake Superior	\$72
Total	\$44,768

Appendix A

Streams or project expenditures during FY03 from Trout and Salmon Stamp funds.

Stream or Project	Fisheries Area	County	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Bemis Hill Creek	Baudette	Roseau	\$16
Clearwater River	Bemidji	Beltrami	\$61
Necktie River	Bemidji	Hubbard	\$2,400
Sucker Brook	Bemidji	Clearwater	\$2,400
Cat Creek	Park Rapids	Wadena	\$1,885
Kabekona River	Park Rapids	Hubbard	\$5,267
Straight River	Park Rapids	Becker, Hubbard	\$1,166
Blackhoof Creek	Duluth	Carlton	\$904
Chester Creek	Duluth	St. Louis	\$18
Helicopter rental to inventory beaver dams	Duluth		\$3,163
Knife River	Duluth	Lake, St. Louis	\$2,439
Miller Creek	Duluth	St. Louis	\$393
Pipline repair for the area hatchery	Duluth		\$3,199
Rocky Run	Duluth	St. Louis	\$1,148
Steward River	Duluth	Lake	\$220
Technical assistance on volunteer habitat projects	Duluth		\$197
Junco Creek	Grand Marais	Cook	\$2,963
Dark River	Grand Rapids	St. Louis	\$5,573
Morrison Brook	Grand Rapids	Itasca	\$4,261
Hay Creek	Hinckley	Pine	\$32
Little Hay Creek	Hinckley	Pine	\$51
Vermillion River	Metro East	Dakota	\$25
Cold Spring Brook	Montrose	Stearns	\$1,466
Hay Creek	Lake City	Goodhue	\$4,909
Long Creek	Lake City	Wabasha	\$10,725
Big Springs Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$3,236
Camp Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$40
Coolridge Creek	Lanesboro	Winona	\$268
Crooked Creek, Main Branch	Lanesboro	Houston	\$321
Daley Creek	Lanesboro	Houston	\$3,872
Duschee Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$1,111
Etna Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$286
Ferguson Creek	Lanesboro	Winona	\$309

Appendix A. Continued

Stream or Project	Fisheries Area	County	Trout Stamp Expenditures
Gribben Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$84
Hemmingway Creek	Lanesboro	Winona	\$287
Little Jordan Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$84
Lost Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$36
Materials, supplies and equipment purchases	Lanesboro		\$23,813
Nepstad Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$28
North Branch Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$44,943
Pine Creek	Lanesboro	Winona	\$4,277
Riceford Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore, Houston	\$111
Root River, South Branch	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$350
Root River, South Fork	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$4,117
Rush Creek	Lanesboro	Winona	\$13,089
South Branch Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	1,086
Torkelson Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$35,331
Trout Run Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore, Winona	\$332
West Beaver Creek	Lanesboro	Houston	\$630
Willow Creek	Lanesboro	Fillmore	\$35
Winnebago Creek	Lanesboro	Houston	\$1,268
Seven Mile Creek	Waterville	Nicollet	\$12,700