

# Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



## Game and Fish Fund Report

For the Fiscal  
Year Ended  
June 30, 2007







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## Fiscal Year 2007 Game and Fish Fund Report

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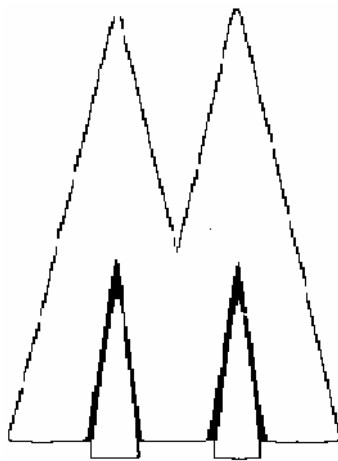
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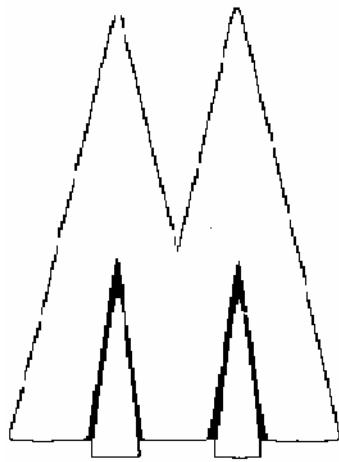
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# Introduction

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report



## Report Purpose

The DNR prepares an annual Game and Fish Fund report as directed by M.S. 97A.055, subd. 4 and M.S. 97A.4742, subd. 4. Additionally, the DNR is directed under M.S. 97A.075 to biennially report on emergency deer feeding and wild cervid health management. The Game and Fish Fund Report includes this reporting requirement on page 59.

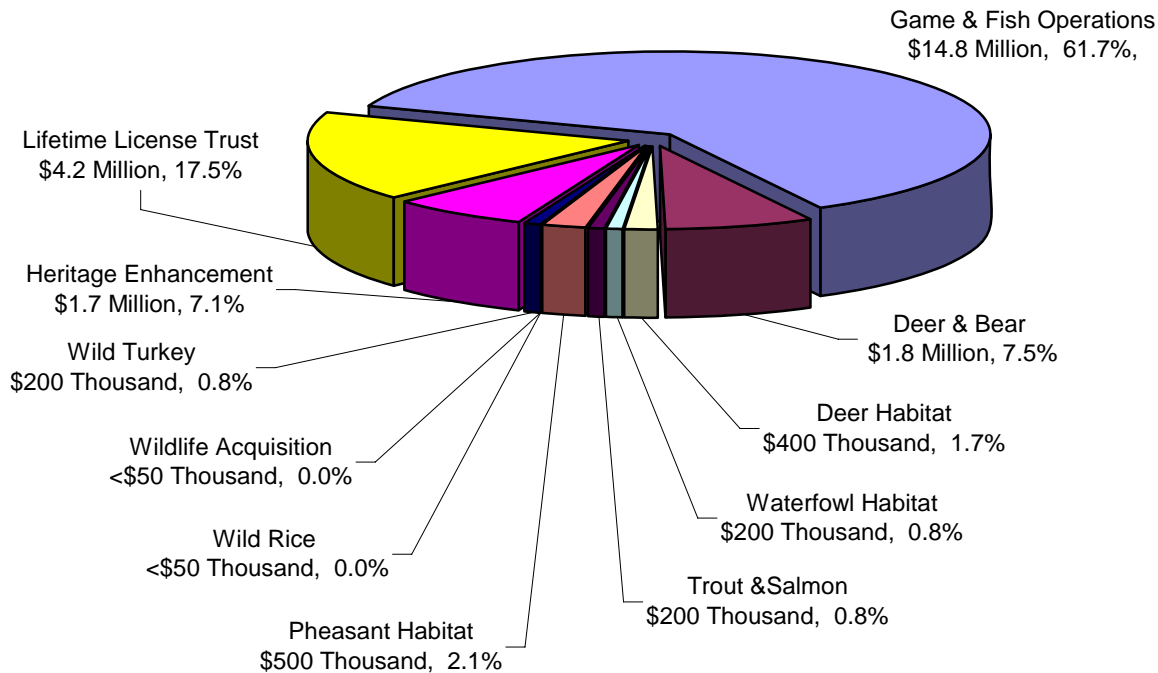
The DNR views the production of the annual Game and Fish Fund Report as much more than an exercise in meeting the statutory requirements. In preparing and distributing the report, the DNR has the opportunity to communicate with individuals, stakeholder groups, the Game and Fish Oversight Committees, legislators, and DNR staff. The annual report requires the DNR to be accountable to these audiences on its financial management and game and fish program outcomes. The report fosters discussion on the planning for future operations, setting priorities, articulating outcomes, and reviews of assumptions used in the financial forecast for the fund. In short, the report is a tool for the DNR to encourage and foster open communication about the management of the state's game and fish natural resources.

## Game and Fish Fund Overview

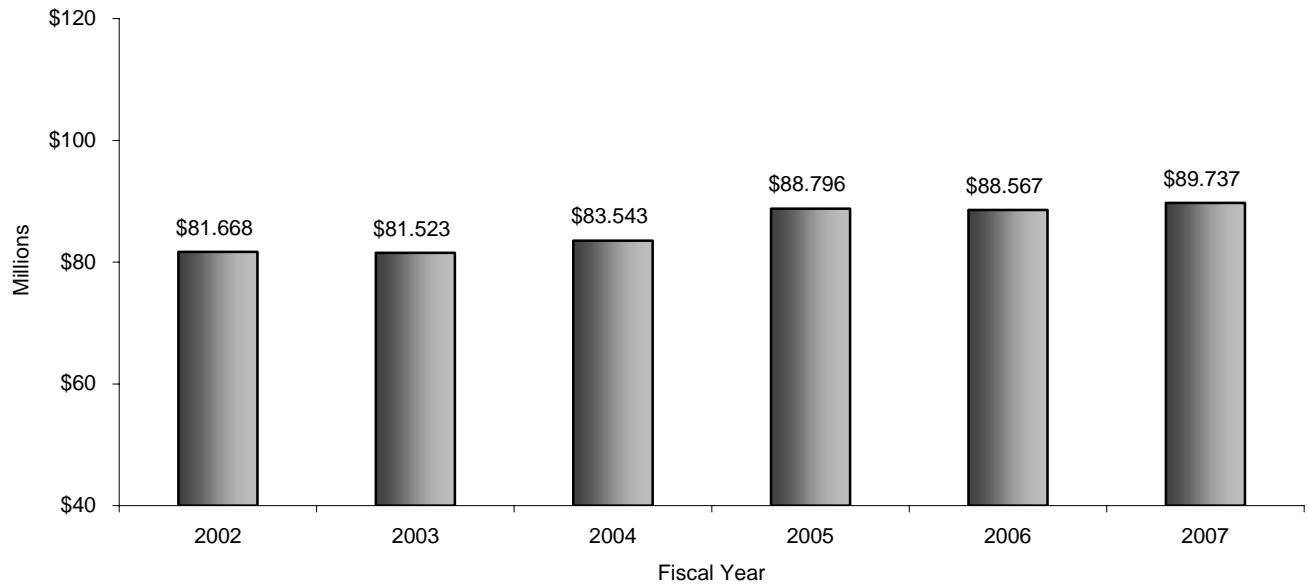
The title "Game and Fish Fund" refers to a series of game and fish accounts whose purposes are closely related. In addition to the Game and Fish Operations account, the report presents the purpose and status of dedicated stamp and surcharge accounts. The report also describes the purpose and activity in the Heritage Enhancement Account and the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.

The fiscal year 2007 ending fund balance of \$24.0 million is divided between the accounts of the Game and Fish Fund as shown below.

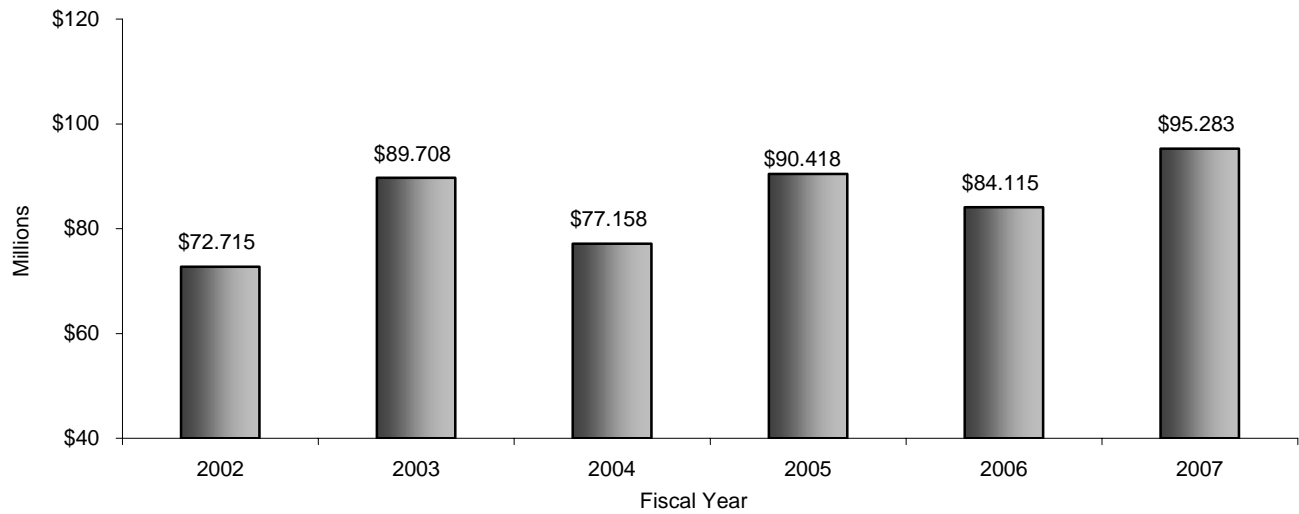
**Available Fund Balance of \$24.0 Million  
As of June 30, 2007**



**Graph 1. Historical Receipts and Transfers-in**



**Graph 2. Historical Expenditures and Transfers-out**





## Revenues

The DNR deposits an array of receipts to the fund, the majority relates directly to the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Table 1 indicates revenues from receipts and transfers-in for the current and four previous fiscal years.

**Table 1**  
**Receipts and Transfers-in**  
**Fiscal Years**  
**(In Thousands)**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Hunting licenses	\$19,584	\$21,736	\$21,988	\$22,224	\$23,209
Fishing licenses	21,848	21,631	21,684	20,958	21,307
Sports licenses (hunting and fishing)	4,898	4,835	4,784	4,622	4,825
Hunting and angling stamps	1,999	2,282	2,663	2,475	2,573
Small game surcharge	1,140	1,583	1,843	1,778	1,939
Lifetime licenses	675	680	710	748	646
Commercial licenses	245	382	370	358	342
Federal grant Fisheries (Dingell-Johnson)	10,136	10,022	11,180	10,751	10,701
Federal grant Wildlife (Pittman-Robertson)	5,815	6,017	7,220	7,047	6,765
Lottery in-lieu-of-sales tax	9,948	9,104	9,603	10,585	9,948
License issuing and application fees	2,133	2,270	2,676	3,354	3,424
Sale and lease of natural resources	624	722	809	579	650
All other receipts	1,618	1,297	1,959	2,019	2,375
Transfer In: Police State Aid	913	982	1,307	1,069	1,033
<b>Total Receipts and Transfers-In</b>	<u><u>\$81,576</u></u>	<u><u>\$83,543</u></u>	<u><u>\$88,796</u></u>	<u><u>\$88,567</u></u>	<u><u>\$89,737</u></u>

Hunting license revenues increased from fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007 primarily due to increasing numbers of deer hunters shifting from regular and multi-zone licenses to the more expensive all season licenses and additional deer permits sold as a result of high deer populations. Increases in Fishing Licenses are primarily due to increased license purchases. There was no increase to the fee for fishing licenses in fiscal year 2007.

Federal aid reimbursements declined in fiscal year 2007. This is due to the timing of expenditure reimbursement and differences between the federal (October-September) and state (July-June) fiscal years. In the past, the fund has been reimbursed for the state's full apportionment of that year's federal fiscal year funds within the state fiscal year. In fiscal year 2007, the full apportionment was not realized within the state fiscal year. The apportionments were instead reimbursed over the full 12 months and will be reflected in future Game and Fish Fund statements and next year's Game and Fish Fund Report.

## Expenditures

**Table 2**  
**Game and Fish Fund**  
**Expenditures by Division and Account**  
**(In Thousands)**

Divisions	Game and Fish Operations	Deer and Bear	Deer Management	Waterfowl Habitat
Fisheries.....	\$ 26,899	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Wildlife.....	17,779	370	1,422	904
License Center.....	4,178	13	-	-
Ecological Resources.....	2,256	-	-	-
Enforcement.....	18,386	-	-	-
Trails and Waterways.....	2,709	-	-	-
Forestry.....	-	-	-	-
Lands and Minerals.....	1,007	-	-	-
Operations Support.....	2,837	-	-	-
Statewide Indirect.....	670	-	-	-
Transfer to Debt Service.....	3	-	-	-
Agency Total	<u>\$ 76,724</u>	<u>\$ 383</u>	<u>\$ 1,422</u>	<u>\$ 904</u>

Spending from the Game and Fish Fund is controlled by appropriations authorized by the legislature and signed by the Governor into law. Appropriations are typically established for a biennium; in this case, for fiscal years 2006 and 2007.

For fiscal year 2007 the Legislature authorized spending of \$87.773 million from the Game and Fish Fund. Minnesota legislation allows for appropriated funds from the first year of a biennium to be expended in the second. Expenditures are reported in ten areas and are summarized in the table above, with detail in the fund statement included as Appendix A.

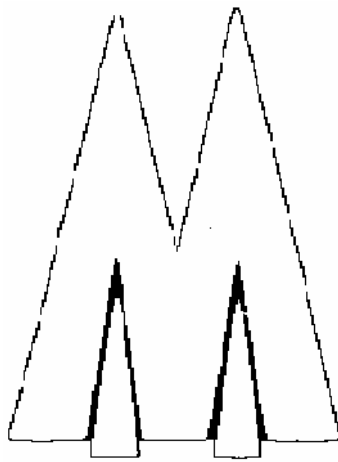
During the budgetary development process, \$3.692 million in appropriations for the Management Resources and Human Resources Bureaus within the Department's Operations Support Program was transferred into divisional appropriations. The departmental functions affected are: 1) building maintenance funded directly by the Management Resources Bureau, 2) Management Information Services, 3) purchasing services, 4) property management, 5) safety program, 6) human resource management. This change reduces expenditures in Operations Support and increase divisional expenditures by the same amount. For the purpose of this report, programs have spread these costs across all activities within their report sections, except for division support categories.

<u>Trout and Salmon</u>	<u>Pheasant Habitat</u>	<u>Wild Rice</u>	<u>Wildlife Acquisition</u>	<u>Wild Turkey</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
\$ 846	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,333	\$ 32,078
-	1,179	41	1,945	132	4,083	27,855
-	-	-	-	-	-	4,191
-	-	-	-	-	1,869	4,125
-	-	-	-	-	1,202	19,588
-	-	-	-	-	-	2,709
-	-	-	-	-	221	221
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,007
-	-	-	-	-	-	2,837
-	-	-	-	-	-	670
-	-	-	-	-	-	3
<u>\$ 846</u>	<u>\$ 1,179</u>	<u>\$ 41</u>	<u>\$ 1,945</u>	<u>\$ 132</u>	<u>\$ 11,708</u>	<u>\$ 95,284</u>

**Table 3**  
**Expenditures and Transfers-out**  
**Fiscal Years**  
**(In Thousands)**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Fisheries	\$ 30,275	\$ 27,262	\$ 29,466	\$ 29,790	\$ 32,078
Wildlife	23,753	19,819	25,926	23,862	27,855
License Center	3,200	3,097	3,521	3,643	4,191
Ecological Resources	4,025	2,313	3,683	3,018	4,125
Enforcement	17,499	14,823	17,221	17,921	19,588
Trails and Waterways	1,626	1,701	2,109	1,312	2,709
Forestry	223	159	316	250	221
Lands and Minerals	894	828	938	843	1,007
Operations Support*	7,075	6,432	6,434	2,641	2,837
Statewide Indirect and Debt Service	1,152	725	804	835	673
Agency Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 89,722</u>	<u>\$ 77,159</u>	<u>\$ 90,418</u>	<u>\$ 84,115</u>	<u>\$ 95,284</u>

\* Operations Support expenditures for 2006 and 2007 are reported within the divisions' program expenditures.





# Fisheries

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**Fisheries Activities**

<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 26,899
Dedicated Account (234)	846
Heritage Enhancement Account (239)	4,333
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 32,078</u>

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages recreational and commercial fisheries and aquatic habitat on approximately 5,400 lakes and 16,000 miles of fishable streams and rivers. Anglers spend over 30 million person-days fishing and harvest about 30 million pounds of fish annually in Minnesota.

The six core functions of the fisheries management work are:

- Monitor fish populations and aquatic habitat,
- Protect, improve, and restore fish populations and aquatic habitat,
- Propagate fish for stocking in publicly accessible waters,
- Provide public information and aquatic education,
- Planning and coordination,
- Division Support.

Fisheries management expenditures have generally increased since fiscal year 1997 as a result of new Heritage Enhancement Account, and new Game and Fish Fund initiatives. Expenditure increases occurred in all major program areas based on priorities identified through operational planning and input from the Fisheries Roundtable and Citizen Oversight Committees. Special emphasis has been placed on habitat improvement and protection and fish stocking programs. Table 4 provides a summary of expenditures for fisheries from the Game and Fish Fund only, and table 5 presents a historical summary of all fund expenditures by major programs for the current and four previous fiscal years.

<b>Table 4 Fisheries Management Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>				
<u>Core Function</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Monitor Fish Populations & Habitat	\$10,931	\$ 81	\$ 1,517	\$12,529
Protect, Improve, & Restore Fish Populations & Habitat	2,806	311	755	3,872
Propagate Fish for Stocking in Publicly Accessible Waters	4,010	450	1,975	6,435
Provide Public Information & Aquatic Education	2,361	-	-	2,361
Planning and Coordination	4,174	-	39	4,213
Division Support	2,617	4	47	2,668
Total Fisheries Management Expenditures	<u>\$26,899</u>	<u>\$ 846</u>	<u>\$ 4,333</u>	<u>\$32,078</u>

**Fisheries Activities**

**Table 5  
Historical Expenditures  
Including General and Water Recreation Funds  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Major Program</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Habitat Improvement & Protection	\$ 5,916	\$ 4,216	\$ 4,283	\$ 3,958	\$ 4,624
Lake & Stream Surveys	7,888	7,840	8,448	8,707	9,851
Research	2,167	2,105	2,010	2,128	2,684
Fish Culture & Stocking	5,529	6,136	7,088	6,420	6,436
Aquatic Education	761	768	834	873	919
Public Information	1,278	1,105	1,435	1,809	1,665
Planning & Coordination	3,746	3,461	3,526	3,932	4,345
Division Support	<u>2,305</u>	<u>2,426</u>	<u>2,662</u>	<u>3,047</u>	<u>2,668</u>
Total Historical Expenditures	<u>\$ 29,590</u>	<u>\$ 28,057</u>	<u>\$ 30,286</u>	<u>\$ 30,874</u>	<u>\$ 33,192</u>

\*\* The following expenditures related directly to projects were spread across all activities except Division Support: training information, information systems, general administration, equipment, supplies, leave, and fiscal year 2007 Departmental Operations Support (\$2.063 million).

**Expenditures and Outcomes**

Current fiscal year expenditures have been grouped into the six core functions. The dollar amounts include expenditures from the Game and Fish Fund that accounted for about 97% of fish management total expenditures (excluding those from special appropriations and revolving accounts). The program outcomes include accomplishments realized from all funding sources.

## Fisheries Activities

### 1. Monitor Fish Populations and Aquatic Habitat

Activities:

- Lake and stream surveys and assessments, large lake sampling program, creel surveys
- Lake and stream database
- Research
- Monitor private aquaculture and commercial harvest of fish and other aquatic animals

**Table 6**  
**Monitor Fish Population and Aquatic Habitat Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lake Surveys & Assessments	\$ 3,991	\$ 21	\$ 921	\$ 4,933
Large Lake Assessments	1,306	56	301	1,663
Stream Surveys & Assessments	1,217	4	163	1,384
Creel Surveys	276	-	132	408
Lake & Stream Database	593	-	-	593
Private Aquaculture	120	-	-	120
Commercial Fishing Monitoring	70	-	-	70
Project Monitoring	675	-	-	675
Warmwater Research	2,242	-	-	2,242
Cold-water Research	441	-	-	441
<b>Total Population and Acquisition Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$ 10,931</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 81</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,517</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 12,529</u></b>

**Table 7**  
**Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Number Completed</u>	<u>Number Ongoing</u>
Lake Surveys	721	0
Stream Surveys	161	0
Creel Surveys	21	0
Research Projects	24 internal/8 contract	30

### 2. Protect, Improve, and Restore Fish Populations and Aquatic Habitat

Activities:

- Regulate recreational and commercial fisheries
- Regulate removal of aquatic plants



## Fisheries Activities

- Environmental review
- Acquisition of aquatic management areas
- Expenditures: lake and stream habitat improvement, shore land habitat restoration, spawning areas, lake reclamation, aeration, watershed projects, fish barriers, fish removal

**Table 8**  
**Protect, Improve and Restore Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

Program	Game & Fish	Trout Stamp	Heritage	Total
Aquatic Plant Management/Shoreland	\$ 484	\$ -	\$ 345	\$ 829
Exotic Species Management	9	-	-	9
Environmental Review	479	-	-	479
Acquisition	666	50	184	900
Trout Stream Improvement	344	261	45	650
Warmwater Stream Improvement	161	-	102	263
Lake Improvement	177	-	37	214
Fish Barriers	41	-	13	54
Lake Reclamation	12	-	2	14
Lake Aeration	27	-	26	53
Coop & Special Projects	355	-	-	355
Watershed Projects	49	-	1	50
Fish Removal	2	-	-	2
<b>Total Protect, Improve and Restore Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 2,806</b>	<b>\$ 311</b>	<b>\$ 755</b>	<b>\$ 3,872</b>

**Table 9**  
**Outcomes**

Activity	Amount Improved/Acquired	Number of projects
Shoreland Program	6.61 acres or 10,660 linear ft.	13 public /17 private
Acquisition Non Cold-water Stream AMA's	5.33 miles or 457.1 acres	17
Acquisition Cold-water Streams	2.67 miles or 98.7 acres	6
Trout Streams Habitat Improvement	186 miles	33
Warmwater Streams Habitat Improvement	61 miles	5
Lake Reclamation*	0	0

\*Note: 19 walleye rearing ponds were reclaimed.

**Fisheries Activities**

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**3. Propagate Fish for Stocking in Publicly Accessible Waters**

Activities:

- Propagate walleye, muskellunge, northern pike, trout, salmon, and other game fish species for stocking
- Stock small lakes in the Twin Cities metropolitan area as part of the urban fishing (FiN) program
- Maintain and improve state fish hatcheries and rearing ponds

**Table 10  
Propagate Expenditures  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Walleye	\$ 1,889	\$ -	\$ 1,474	\$ 3,363
Muskellunge	277	-	240	517
Northern Pike	51	-	11	62
Catfish, Bass, Pan fish, Others	197	-	74	271
Trout & Salmon	1,507	450	149	2,106
Kids Fishing Ponds	89	-	27	116
Total Propagate Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,010</u>	<u>\$ 450</u>	<u>\$ 1,975</u>	<u>\$ 6,435</u>

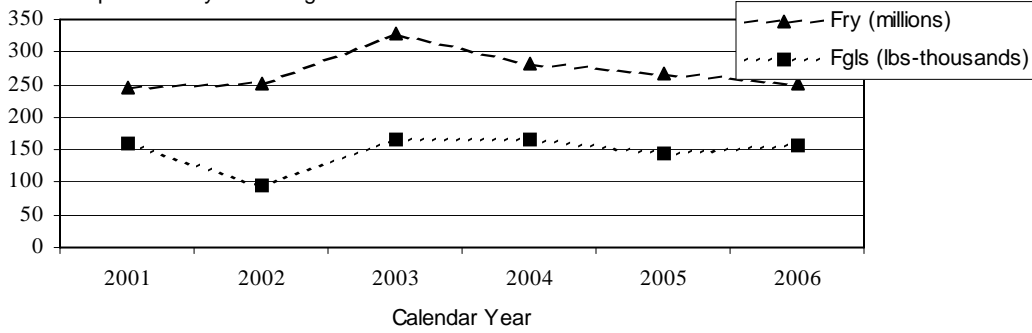
**Table 11  
Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Fish Stocked</u>	<u>Lakes/Streams Stocked</u>
Walleye Fry	272.4 M	293 lakes
Walleye Fingerlings, Yearlings, and Adults	3.2 M	385 lakes
Muskellunge Fingerlings (Includes Tiger Muskellunge)	27.5 T	39 lakes
Trout & Salmon (All Sizes)	1.5 M	177 lakes, 86 streams
Kids Fishing Ponds (FiN Program)	60 T	50 lakes

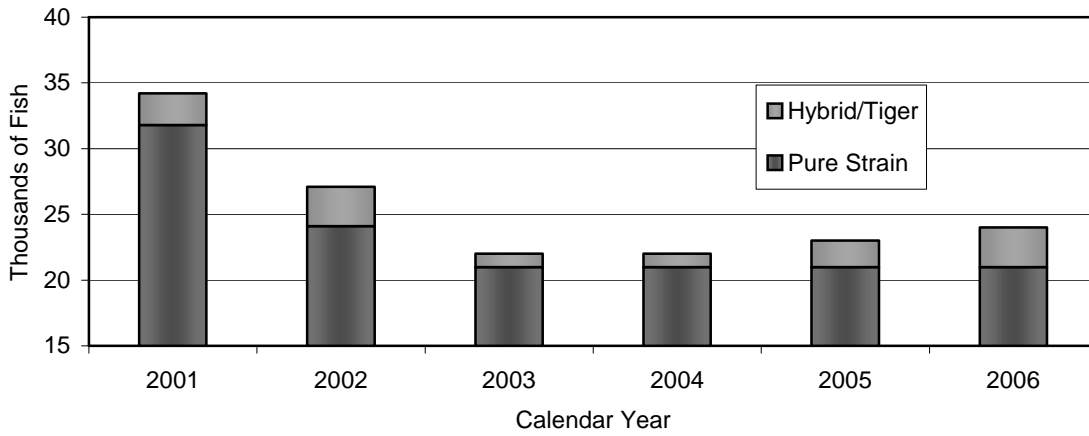
M=Million, T=Ton

## Fisheries Activities

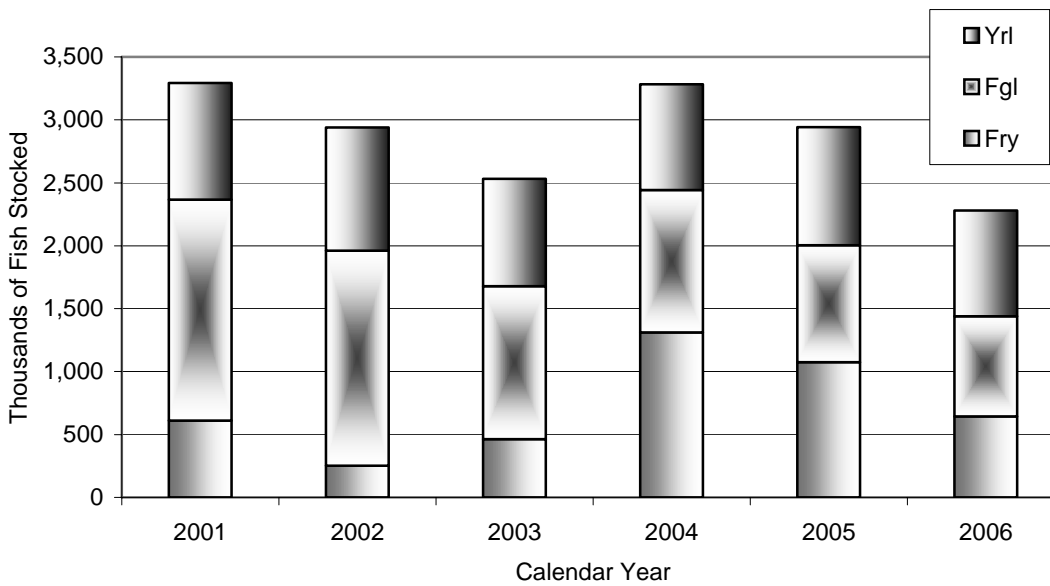
Graph 3: Walleye Stocking from 2001-2006



Graph 4: Muskellunge Fingerling Stocking from 2001-2006



Graph 5: Trout and Salmon Stocking from 2001-2006



## Fisheries Activities

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### 4. Provide Public Information and Aquatic Education

Activities:

- Provide fisheries information in a variety of forums
- Conduct aquatic education programs
- Participate in state and county fairs and other resource-related events
- Recruitment and retention of anglers

**Table 12**  
**Public Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aquatic Education	\$ 729	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 729
Public Information	1,632	-	-	1,632
Total Public Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,361</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,361</u>

**Table 13**  
**Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Number</u>
Aquatic Education Programs	537
Program Participants	32,204
Volunteers Trained	407

**Fisheries Activities**

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**5. Planning and Coordination**

Activities:

- Strategic, long range, and operational planning.
- Coordination with the public, other units in the DNR, Indian bands, and other units of government.
- Individual lake and stream management planning.

**Table 14  
Planning & Coordination  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Department/Agency Coordination	\$ 2,836	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,836
Treaty Coordination	476	-	-	476
Strategic/Long Range Planning	49	-	-	49
Regional Planning	151	-	-	151
Operational Planning	240	-	-	240
Lake Management Plans	270	-	1	271
Stream Management Plans	22	-	-	22
Tournaments	93	-	-	93
Fishing Piers	37	-	38	75
<b>Total Planning &amp; Coordination Expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 4,174</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 39</u>	<u>\$ 4,213</u>

**Table 15  
Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Number</u>
Lake/Stream Management Plans	337
Fishing Tournament Permits	588
Fishing Piers/Shore Access	2

**Fisheries Activities**

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**6. Division Support**

**Activities:**

- Provide for administration and facility support for the Division.
- Fund equipment for division programs.

**Outcomes:**

- Includes administrative support, management, and supervision, Fisheries' share of the expenses for the Fish and Wildlife and Ecological Resources administrative unit, office rent, utilities, workers compensation, office supplies, Attorney General's Office fees, and pro-rated costs for four regional liaisons.
- Includes fleet charges for Division vehicles and other equipment not directly tied to a specific program outcome.
- Maintain adequate and effective use of agency resources so that support is available to staff to get the job done.
- Fisheries Management Section and Fisheries Research staff work in approximately 38 locations throughout the state. Support provided for these positions, which cannot be tied to a specific project or program outcome.

**Table 16  
Division Support  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Trout Stamp</u>	<u>Heritage</u>	<u>Total</u>
Division Administration	\$ 607	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 607
Human Resources and Budget	263	-	-	263
Facilities	1,276	3	21	1,300
Workers Compensation	206	-	-	206
Unemployment	128	-	-	128
Fleet minimums	137	1	26	164
<b>Total Division Support</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,617</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 47</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,668</u></b>



# Wildlife

2007 Game  
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Report

## Wildlife Activities

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 17,779
Dedicated Accounts (231 - 238)	5,993
Heritage Enhancement Account (239)	<u>4,083</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 27,855</u>

The Division of Fish and Wildlife (FAW) protects and manages approximately 1,400 wildlife management areas (WMA) totaling over 1.2 million acres. Technical assistance is provided to other state agencies, public and private landowners and outdoor recreationists. More than 50 big game, small game, waterfowl, migratory bird, and furbearer species are managed through regulated harvest. These efforts combine to provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities for over 597,000 licensed hunters.

Wildlife expenditures from all funding sources totaled more than \$45.5 million in fiscal year 2007 and accomplishments reported are for all funding sources. Of these total expenditures, Game and Fish Funds accounted for \$27.9 million. For this report, Game and Fish Fund expenditures were sorted into the following 14 core functions:

- Division Support
- Environmental Review
- Facility Management
- Farmland Habitat Management
- Forest Habitat Management
- Planning and Coordination
- Population Management
- Private Land Habitat Management
- Land Acquisitions
- Operations
- Research & Population Monitoring
- Habitat Assessment
- Technical Guidance
- Wetland Habitat Management

Expenditures for staff leave, relocation expenses, unemployment insurance and miscellaneous benefits were prorated for all functions except Division Support and Land Acquisitions. Departmental Operations Support (\$1.581 million) was spread across all categories except Division Support.



**Wildlife Activities**

**Table 17  
Historical Expenditures  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

<b>Wildlife Program</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Division Support	\$ 36	\$ 1,790	\$ 2,308	\$ 1,965	\$ 1,440
Environmental Review	111	76	86	100	108
Facility Management	1,418	903	1,667	1,515	1,866
Farmland Habitat	2,873	2,074	2,885	2,409	2,743
Forest Habitat	1,974	992	1,219	1,450	1,757
Planning and Coordination	-	2,022	2,426	1,434	1,723
Population Management	2,993	2,988	3,048	2,481	2,571
Private Land Habitat	619	332	544	584	730
Land Acquisitions	-	565	2,307	1,976	3,289
Operations	10,658	2,938	2,833	3,985	4,072
Research & Population Monitoring	1,793	1,598	1,594	1,850	1,984
Habitat Assessment	1,190	724	1,029	988	1,143
Technical Guidance	1,825	1,639	1,775	1,620	2,119
Wetland Habitat	<u>2,140</u>	<u>1,178</u>	<u>2,204</u>	<u>1,505</u>	<u>2,310</u>
Total Historical Expenditures	<u>\$27,630</u>	<u>\$19,819</u>	<u>\$25,925</u>	<u>\$23,862</u>	<u>\$27,855</u>

\* Fiscal years 2006 and 2007, Departmental operation support was spread across all categories except Division Support.

**Program Outcomes**

Current fiscal year expenditures have been grouped into the 14 core functions. The program outcomes include accomplishments realized from all funding sources.

**1. Division Support**

Wildlife Management Section and Wildlife Research staff work in approximately 50 locations throughout the state. Support provided for these positions, which cannot be tied to a specific project or program, includes budget management, fiscal administration, general equipment and headquarters operations expenses, worker's compensation payments and unemployment insurance expenses for part-time staff.

**2. Environmental Review**

A cooperative effort between the Divisions of Ecological Resources and FAW provides environmental review of development on both public and private lands within the state. The Division of Ecological Resources administers this program with contributions of time by Wildlife field staff.

- Environmental review for private applications and projects: 945 hours using all funds.
- Environmental review for governmental applications and projects: 1,296 hours using all funds.

**3. Facility Management**

Management responsibility for over 1.2 million acres in 1,412 units of state WMA open to public outdoor recreation requires the development and maintenance of infrastructure such as roads and trails, accesses, parking lots, hunter blinds, wildlife observation structures, and the management of boundaries and information signs. Land and user protection involves sealing open wells and cisterns and cleaning up dumps and building sites on acquired lands.

- WMA facilities have been inventoried and mapped into Geographic Information System (GIS) databases, and information is managed, displayed and summarized from these.
- Maps of WMA boundaries and now parking lots are available to the public on the DNR web site <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>
- Data on public WMA facilities (trails, roads, parking lots, accesses, campsites, blinds, etc.) has been made available to the public at the DNR Data Deli <http://deli.dnr.state.mn.us>

<b>Table 18</b>		
<b>Facility Management Outcomes</b>		
<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Quantities</u>
Facility Management	603 units	1,616 facilities
Access Management	504 units	690 miles
Boundary Management	277 WMAs	837 miles
Site/Building Cleanup/Well Sealing	90 WMAs	136 sites

**4. Farmland Habitat Management**

Management of wildlife habitats in agricultural areas of Minnesota includes developing, improving and burning grasslands, controlling noxious weeds, managing food plots and cooperative farming agreements, and developing woody cover plantings.

- Noxious weed locations representing 4,500 sites have been mapped on 202 WMAs.
- A new GIS application is being developed to record, map and summarize all food plots and coop farming agreements.

<b>Table 19</b>		
<b>Farmland Habitat Outcomes</b>		
<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Quantities</u>
Noxious Weed Control	410 WMAs	4,791 acres
Prairie/Grassland Management	306 plantings	6,578 acres
Food Plots	333 food plots	2,412 acres
Cooperative Farming Agreements	646 agreements	32,634 acres
Prairie/Grassland Burns	251 burns	10,758 acres
Woody Cover Development	23 plantings	100 acres

## Wildlife Activities

### 5. Forest Habitat Management

Management of wildlife habitats in forested areas of Minnesota includes forest and open/brush land management activities in WMAs and other public lands. See the Technical Guidance Program section for additional details on forest planning efforts. Program expenses contributed to the following outcomes.

- The Department has been awarded the Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative third-party certification of 4.84 million acres of state-administered forestlands. To monitor compliance with certification standards, in 2007 the Section of Wildlife participated in both internal audits and the bi-annual surveillance audit conducted by third-party auditors.
- Wildlife staff worked with other Departmental staff and the Minnesota Forest Resources Council to complete Biomass Harvesting Guidelines. Training on the new guidelines will occur in 2008.

**Table 20**  
**Forest Habitat Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Quantities</u>
Forest Opening Management	794 sites	1,410 acres
Forest Stand Improvement	179 stands	2,467 acres
Forest Stand Burns	8 burns	990 acres
Open/Brush Land Management	128 sites	6,475 acres
Open/Brush Land Burns	68 burns	10,648 acres

### 6. Planning and Coordination

Planning and coordination includes: 1) the management of United States Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife Restoration Act projects (AKA federal aid, Pittman-Robertson Act) which resulted in the reimbursement of \$6.8 million in fiscal year 2007 to the Game and Fish Fund, 2) implementation of an operational planning and the accomplishment reporting program called the Wildlife Management System, and 3) coordination at the section, division and department levels on policy, outreach and program implementation. Key activities include:

- Roundtable meeting conducted for stakeholder group input,
- Coordination with Legislature on budget and policy initiatives,
- Rulemaking to establish seasons and limits,
- Nontoxic Shot Advisory Committee recommendations on use of lead shot for small game hunting,
- Three technical groups reported on maintaining wetland values, regulatory criteria, licensing/inspection, and notification/permission related to aquaculture activities, and
- Support staff communications with local government units regarding proposed WMA acquisitions through:
  - Development of a calculator to identify fiscal impacts of proposed acquisitions, and
  - Independent analyses of state and regional economic contributions of hunting and wildlife viewing on WMAs.

### 7. Population Management

Population management includes informal surveys to determine the status of populations or harvest, hunting season management including special hunts for deer and geese, actions taken to manage disease outbreaks, capture and release of wild turkeys, Canada geese, and other species, managing nuisance animals, and distribution of resources to meet Indian treaty agreements. Key activities and accomplishments include the following:

Big Game Activities:

- Big Game Elk season conducted fall 2007.

## Wildlife Activities

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- Sampled 5,000 deer for bovine tuberculosis (TB) and 1,100 deer for chronic wasting disease (CWD). Extensive statewide surveillance was completed and targeted surveillance in northwestern Minnesota will continue.
- Completed forest deer population goals and finalized farmland deer permit area population goals. Process involved a stakeholder team and internet-based public input process.
- Re-aligned several deer permit area boundaries in Zone 2 to better reflect habitat.
- Expanded early antlerless hunting opportunities to include 22 permit areas. Permit areas were identified through the goal setting process as significantly above objective and the intensive harvest strategy was not working.
- Completed second survey of participants in State Park special hunts and early antlerless hunts.

### Upland Birds Activities:

- Completed third mourning dove season since 1940's and first managed dove fields in Minnesota. Instituted a non-toxic shot requirement for all managed dove fields.
- Updated dove field information and WMAs with dove hunting opportunities DNR on the web site.
- Nontoxic Shot Advisory Committee composed of citizens, industry and experts completed their recommendations for potential for additional restrictions for upland bird hunting.
- Recorded the highest pheasant harvest (585,000) since 1964.
- Received public input on the ruffed grouse management plan assessment. The Section's Grouse Management Committee is working to incorporate the input and move the plan forward.
- Held third prairie chicken hunting season.

### Wild Turkey Activities

- Completed wild turkey management plan.
- Continued wild turkey winter survival study (second year) in Pennington and Red Lake Counties.
- Completed and analyzed 2006 *Hunters Observing Wild Turkeys* survey.
- GIS modeling of potential turkey release sites guided releases in fiscal year 2007. Revisions of statewide wild turkey forest habitat databases were used to improve hunting permit allocation model.

### Waterfowl Activities:

- Waterfowl breeding surveys conducted for ducks and for Canada geese.
- Waterfowl surveys completed several times on all 40 case study lakes during the migration season.
- Continued public dialogue about status of waterfowl populations, habitat and regulations.
- Co-sponsored annual Waterfowl Symposium with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Minnesota Waterfowl Association (MWA) (held at Bloomington in 2007)
- Continued the annual aerial photography and analysis for wetland trend determination. 2007 marks the second year of this effort.
- Initiated a prioritization plan for waterfowl habitat on shallow lakes in FY 06 to be completed in FY 08.

### Season Management Activities:

- Held statewide public meetings to present and discuss proposed season regulation changes.

## 8. Private Land Habitat Management

The purpose of the Private Lands Management Program is to harness the interest of private landowners to conserve wildlife populations and habitats, to maximize the use of existing private lands programs, and to guide private landowners through education efforts to become knowledgeable land stewards and wildlife conservationists. FAW works with partners to both implement and increase the conservation provisions and benefits of federal farm programs through technical assistance and communication with landowners. FAW has contributed over \$2 million since fiscal year 2002 to a collaboration with the Board of water and Soil Resources (BWSR), Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) and Pheasants Forever (PF) to enroll landowners in conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. FAW also provides cost share funds to landowners to improve wildlife habitat on private lands. For example, brush land management benefiting sharp-tailed grouse habitat is a high priority in the northeast while prairie restorations for ground-nesting birds is a high priority in southwest Minnesota.

## Wildlife Activities

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This program includes the actual costs of implementing habitat management practices on private land including fleet and material expenses but does not include personnel (see Technical Guidance Program, pg 20).

- Improved 8,533 acres of wildlife habitat on private lands.
- Contributed \$337,500 for Farm Bill implementation partnership with BWSR, local SWCD, and Pheasants Forever to enroll 88,799 acres in conservation practices during calendar year 2006 utilizing 34 SWCD staff in 48 priority counties.
- Working Lands Initiative established 10 grants with SWCDs, Ducks Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl. Work completed thus far includes 2 sustainable grazing agreements, invasive species control on 120 acres, easements on 163 acres and incentives for easements on an additional 625 acres.

### 9. Land Acquisitions

Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) are part of Minnesota's outdoor recreation system and are established to protect those lands and waters that have a high potential for wildlife production, public hunting, trapping, fishing, wildlife watching and other compatible recreational uses.

- WMA acquisitions totaled 6,103 acres in 37 tracts and expended \$12.8 million in fiscal year 2007 of which approximately \$1.5 million was from the Game and Fish Fund.
- \$14 million WMA acquisition and development bonding bill passed during the 2006 Legislative session of which \$13 million will be used for acquisition and \$1 million for development of new acquisitions.
- As soon as new deeds become available, new WMAs are mapped and presented on the public web sites.

#### Long-term Trends:

- In 2002 a Citizens Advisory Committee completed a report providing recommendations to acquire over 700,000 acres of new WMA over the next 50 years and more specifically to accelerate acquisition by 21,000 acres per year for the next 10 years. The Legislature provided additional support by appropriating \$10 million and \$12 million in bonding funds for WMA acquisitions during the respective 2005 and 2006 Legislative sessions. Since 2002 more than 27 thousand acres have been acquired averaging about 4,500 acres per year. A detailed WMA acquisition report for the 2006 – 2007 biennium is available.

### 10. Operations

Efficient administration of wildlife management programs provides for support personnel, public education and information, and limited enforcement. Program expenditures in fiscal year 2007 included administrative support, personnel supervision, training, committees, public information and education, hunter recruitment and retention, enforcement, coordination, ELS, grant management and Federally declared disasters. Key activities include the following.

#### Land Enhancement Activities:

- Roadsides for Wildlife Program cost-shared prairie plantings on over 120 acres in 8 counties.
- Initiated work on two \$1 million North American Wetland Conservation Act grants awarded to DNR in fiscal year 2006. Two additional \$1 million grants submitted by Minnesota non-governmental organization's (NGO) have tentative approval.
- The Heritage Enhancement Fund grants provide funding to local outdoors clubs for habitat improvement on WMAs. In fiscal year 2007, the sixth year for this program, \$476,000 was awarded to clubs for projects to be completed by fiscal year 2010 and \$406,678 was spent on 12,225 WMA acres (including grants starting in fiscal year 2006 and 2007).

#### Outreach Activities:

- Coordination of 17 special youth turkey hunts with 380 applicants.
- Coordination of 9 special youth deer hunts with 631 applicants and 388 participants.
- Conducted 3rd annual early youth deer season with more than 650 participants.

## Wildlife Activities

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- Becoming an Outdoor Woman (BOW) Program hosted 2 weekend workshops, 1 family day, one instructor training and 36 Beyond BOW clinics that served 517 participants, and provided hunting skills, shooting skills, and outdoor recreation training. An emphasis was placed on recruiting college women for fall and winter workshops.
- The National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) expanded to 43 additional schools, over 100 teachers were trained as instructors, and 65,000 students participated. Currently, 156 schools are enrolled in the program. Analysis was conducted providing detailed information about hunter participation trends, and a draft Hunter Recruitment and Retention plan was finalized.
- The Southeast Asian Program coordinated two firearms safety classes in the metropolitan area serving over 200 participants, held two community workshops on general hunting regulations for new refugees, and provided updates on regulation changes on Asian radio. Conducted annual Roundtable to solicit input and discussion among stakeholder groups.
- The agency continued to knock down barriers to participation by implementing a new Apprentice Hunter Validation program, reduced the archery draw weight regulation from 40 to 30 pounds and received funding to start a new hunting and angling mentoring program.
- The BOW program hosted a first-ever women's deer hunting clinic attended by 42 women. The clinic was featured on the front page of the Sunday Minneapolis Star Tribune. The BOW program offered a first-ever ruffed grouse hunt for women at the Mille Lacs WMA.
- Roadsides for Wildlife public education campaign included: billboards, posters, café placemats, displays at Townships Conference, Tourism Conference, Pheasants Forever Conference, Farm Fest and State Fair. Over 800 Roadsides for Wildlife metal signs distributed to landowners.

### 11. Research and Population Monitoring

The research, inventory and monitoring program includes coordination of data collection, analysis and reporting of 25 wildlife surveys, 20 applied research projects, 7 population models (big game and registered furbearers), Mississippi Flyway waterfowl regulation efforts, Canada goose management, and expenses associated with literature reviews and publication costs.

#### Waterfowl and Wetlands Activities:

- Ring-necked duck breeding population survey was continued for the fourth year in the primary Minnesota breeding range.
- The 40<sup>th</sup> year of the Minnesota May Waterfowl breeding ground population and habitat survey was completed.
- 5,300 Canada geese were banded in summer 2007 during the last year of the 5-year accelerated goose-banding program.
- Crew's banded 1,684 ducks during summer drive-trapping and night-lighting efforts and 2,790 ducks during preseason rocket-netting operations. Collected avian influenza samples from several species of migratory waterfowl.
- The pilot field season of a research project to determine post-fledging survival and refuge use by ring-necked ducks in north central Minnesota was completed. Twenty-five young ring-necked ducks were marked with radio transmitters, remote receiving stations were established at 4 refuges, and aerial flights were used to locate the birds during September-October.
- Fieldwork was completed on a collaborative study between Fisheries Research and Wildlife Research examined the relationship between wetland characteristics, fish populations, and landscape setting at 75 wetlands on two study sites in and near Grant and Polk counties.
- In 2007, monitored water chemistry, invertebrates, and fish populations at Kenogama Lake, a shallow lake that is used for both fish rearing and waterfowl hunting.

#### Forest Wildlife Activities:

- Fieldwork for phase 1 of the Northeastern Moose Research project was completed. In the 6 years of the project, a total of 114 moose were radio-collared.
- Fieldwork on research into the importance of conifer cover to deer was completed.
- Fieldwork continues to develop new methods that use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to locate dancing grounds for surveys of sharp-tailed grouse.



## Wildlife Activities

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- Black bear were radio collared on a new study site in northwestern Minnesota to better understand the population dynamics of bear on the fringe of their distribution. Radio-collared black bear at 3 other locations in Minnesota were used to monitor reproduction and survival.
- Gray wolves were trapped and radio collared at 3 locations in northern Minnesota to better understand pack and territory size.
- Fieldwork was initiated on a new study of survival and habitat use of fisher and pine marten. Both species are important furbearers on the southern edge of their distribution.

### Farmland Wildlife Activities:

- The east-central turkey winter survival project has been completed.
- Fieldwork for the northwestern turkey winter survival project and the pheasant winter habitat project have been completed, both projects are in the data summarization and analysis phase.
- Aerial surveys and distance-sampling surveys continue in 17 southeastern and northwestern deer permit areas to scientifically recalibrate the farmland deer population model.
- Hunter surveys were conducted to assess hunter attitudes and experiences regarding alternative deer management regulations.
- Biological data were collected from hunter-harvested deer to develop age structure profiles of deer populations in 35 deer permit areas in the transition region.
- Examining relationships between deer populations and forest ecosystems is being conducted at Itasca State Park.

### Wildlife Disease Activities

- Waterfowl and shorebirds were screened for highly pathogenic avian influenza as part of a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture. Over 2,000 Minnesota birds were screened for the disease with only common, non-threatening strains of the virus detected. Collections included live birds handled through on-going banding programs, hunter-harvested birds, and mortality/morbidity event.
  - Created a GIS model and generated a risk map based on concentrations of waterfowl susceptible to HN51, also began mapping locations and species data for captive avian farms/shooting preserves.
- Wild deer in northwest MN were discovered to be infected with bovine tuberculosis (TB), a disease first detected in cattle operations in that area in 2005. To date, 13 deer have been confirmed with the disease of nearly 6,000 sampled both statewide and in the endemic area. Special management efforts have been taken to minimize the opportunity for the disease to become established in the local deer herd, including rigorous deer population surveys, a ban on recreational feeding of wild deer and elk, special hunts, increased bag limits, and sharpshooting.
  - State legislation offered funding to promote the use of deer-proof fencing in the TB endemic area of MN. The separation of cattle and wild deer at stored feed sources is a vital component to the state's plan to manage the disease in both wildlife and domestic cattle.
- Major GIS/GPS support was provided for bovine TB deer management effort in northwestern Minnesota

### Human Dimensions:

- Hunter surveys conducted for turkey and deer hunters.

## 12. Habitat Assessment

Resource assessment includes efforts to inventory, assess and map aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and to create and maintain digital databases for information management. Expenditures included: management and geographic information support (GIS), wildlife resource assessment and wildlife lake assessments.

- Completed Minnesota's portion of the national Geologic Analysis Program. GIS was used to spatially model habitat for 354 vertebrate species within the state. Created predicted specie distribution maps depicting range extent and habitat cover types, analyzed the ownership of the habitats and to what degree that ownership allotted protection/stewardship to each habitat
- Analyzed GIS data for biomass requests, summarizing grasslands and prairies within 50 miles of existing/proposed biofuels/ethanol operations; e.g., Morris, Benson, Shakopee

## Wildlife Activities

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- GIS and GPS technical support used to map and monitor the Swan Lake rotenone project
- Created version 2 of the successful GIS hardware/software application to improve efficiency of aerial wildlife surveys
- Maps of aerated lakes in Central Region facilitated Wildlife and Fisheries collaboration on shallow lake management
- Major GIS support of Wildlife and Fisheries collaborative research on landscape influences on wetland quality
- Accelerated shallow lake and wild rice management
  - Wildlife lake assessments were completed on 103 basins encompassing 33,619 acres.
  - Habitat surveys were conducted on 10 lakes as part of a long term monitoring study to document habitat conditions, management response and duck use on a suite of 40 shallow lakes.
  - Lake survey data was added as new surveys were done and existing data was maintained in a database that contains data from over 1500 wildlife lake surveys.
- Roadside prairie restoration GIS prioritization model developed for the Blue Earth counties.
- Wildlife provided major GIS support as Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) trails were identified, classified and presented for public review.
- A geographic database specific to water control structures is being developed and is about 50% complete. This will be used to manage structures both on Wildlife lands and on other lands.

### 13. Technical Guidance

Although Minnesota's Wildlife Management Area system is one of the largest and best in the nation, most wildlife habitat exists on private land and public lands administered by agencies other than FAW. Providing technical guidance on effective wildlife population and habitat management principles and techniques to these other land administrators is essential for improvements to wildlife related resources throughout the state.

- Wildlife lake technical guidance: 5,297 hours
  - One new lake was designated under M.S. 97A.101.
  - At least seven lake management plans were developed
  - Several presentations on shallow lake management and ecology were given at professional meetings and to the general public
  - GIS coverage of shallow lake information is developed, maintained and distributed as requested
- Forest wildlife technical guidance: 14,520 hours. Most non-industrial owners of forestland own and manage their lands for wildlife and recreation goals. Wildlife staff's guidance to private landowners helps these individuals meet their management goals.
- Interagency technical guidance including urban management for wildlife values: 11,118 hours
- Private land technical guidance: 8,815 hours
- Nuisance animal technical guidance: 2,430 hours
- An Ecological Classification System for Minnesota has been developed, and the Department, including the Division, is developing and implementing long-range forest plans (called Subsection Forest Resources Management Plans or SFRMPs). Wildlife staff is currently participating on 7 interdisciplinary SFRMP planning and implementation teams.
- Wildlife managers recorded a total of 907 wildlife complaints in 2006, up 40% when compared to the 2005 total of 649 complaints. Three species, black bear, white-tailed deer, and Canada geese account for 777, (85.7%) of the complaints received.
- Roadsides for Wildlife presentations given to over 400 MnDOT and county maintenance workers; a training DVD on how-to develop prairie plantings was made in cooperation with MnDOT; assisted Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe with roadside planning; assisted University of Minnesota in proposing a prairie seed research and development facility; provided photos and information for the U of M Extension Service Pesticide Applicators training program. Prairie Seedling Guide books purchased and distributed to wildlife managers and project partners.

### 14. Wetland Habitat Management

Management of wetland wildlife habitats involves the restoration of drained wetlands, maintenance of existing wetlands by replacing water control structures, managing water levels, maintaining dikes and structures, and the improvement of aquatic habitats by seeding desirable aquatic plants, installing fish barriers, and installing nesting structures. Participation in the North American Waterfowl Plan continues for the 31st year. Contributions are used for the management of extensive Canadian breeding waterfowl habitat.



**Wildlife Activities**

**Table 21  
Wetland Habitat Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Quantities</u>
Wetlands Habitat Maintenance	406 wetlands	155,604 acres
Waterfowl Nesting Structures	409 wetlands	2,094 structures
Wetland Impoundment Development	2 wetlands	3 acres
Wetland Restoration	15 wetlands	58 acres
Wetland Water Control	37 wetlands	20,135 acres
Wetland Enhancement	67 wetlands	23,306 acres

Fiscal year 2007 marked the sixth year of implementation of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Ducks Unlimited (DU) Cooperative Wild Rice Enhancement Program. More than 28,828 acres of wild rice in 92 basins were managed in 2007 through this cooperative project.

**Field versus Central Office Spending**

In fiscal year 2007, 79.6% of Game and Fish Funds, or approximately \$22.2 million was spent for regional, area, field and research offices statewide. 20.4%, or approximately \$5.7 million, was spent from the St. Paul central office (see Table). 91.4% of Wildlife personnel are located in regional, area, field and research offices while 8.6% are located in the St. Paul office providing administrative and program support and budgetary oversight.

**Table 22  
Comparison of Field and St. Paul Central Office Expenditures  
Game and Fish Funds Only  
(In Thousands)**

	<u>Field</u>	<u>% Field</u>	<u>Central Office</u>	<u>% Central Office</u>	<u>Total</u>
Operations <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	\$ 20,638	74.1	\$ 5,237	18.8	\$ 25,875
Programs <sup>4</sup>	263	0.9	87	0.3	350
Research	1,210	4.3	77	0.3	1,287
Outreach & Recruitment	15	0.1	71	0.3	86
FAW Business Management	49	0.2	208	0.7	257
Total Expenditures and	<u>\$ 22,175</u>	<u>79.6</u>	<u>\$ 5,680</u>	<u>20.4</u>	<u>\$ 27,855</u>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Farm Bill partnership and promotion included in Field costs.

<sup>2</sup> Operations central office expenditures include salaries for Management, Programs, Research, and Operations staff.

<sup>3</sup> WMA acquisition and development costs expended from central office are included in Field totals.

<sup>4</sup> Wildlife health management expenditures included in Field totals.

## Wildlife Activities

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### Dedicated Accounts

In addition to the general wildlife management and support expenditures itemized above, expenditures from dedicated stamp and surcharge accounts resulted in more specialized outcomes related to the funding source. Additional expenditure detail is provided on each account in the Dedicated Accounts Reports Section beginning on page 60. Activity expenditures for Heritage Enhancement accounts are shown below.

**Table 23**  
**Wildlife Heritage Enhancement Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Division Support	\$ 30
WMA Facility Management	44
Farmland Habitat Program	629
Forest Habitat Program	343
Wetland Habitat Program	437
Habitat Assessment	72
Land Acquisitions	1,128
Operations (related to Private Lands, Hunter Recruitment/Retention and Grants Program efforts)	167
Heritage Grant Administration	33
Planning and Coordination (related to Hunter Recruitment/Retention efforts)	215
Population Management	65
North American Waterfowl Plan	35
Private Land Habitat Program	165
Research & Population Monitoring	245
Technical Guidance	475
Total Heritage Enhancement Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,083</u>



# License Center

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**License Center Activities**

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 4,178
Dedicated Accounts (231)	<u>13</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 4,191</u></u>

The License Center handles the distribution of licenses, stamps and permits required by hunters, anglers and commercial game and fish interests. About 1,750 sales agents sell licenses, stamps and permits using the Electronic Licensing System (ELS). In fiscal year 2007, sales agents handled approximately 99% of all transactions. The remaining 1%, including issuance of commercial and lifetime licenses, were sold at the License Center in the DNR's St. Paul central office.

ELS has been operational for more than seven years. A third-party vendor handles the day-to-day operation of the electronic system, with additional support provided by the License Center. Monthly payments to the vendor cover the costs of the sales terminals use, paper used to print licenses and permits, a 24-hour technical support phone line, and use of the vendor's host computer. More than 3.5 million licenses, permit and stamp sales and license validation transactions were processed through ELS, generating more than \$58 million in revenue for the year. In fiscal year 2007, the License Center spent \$3.295 million to operate ELS through its statutory appropriation under 97A.485, subdivision 7.

License Center operating expenses of \$896 thousand (which includes account 231) made up of personnel, supply and expense items, were paid from the Game and Fish Fund. The specific activities in the License Center that support the licensing of hunters, anglers and commercial interests include:

- **Printing:** The License Center prints angling and commercial game and fish licenses, permits, stamps, lottery applications and winning lottery notifications.
- **Distribution:** The License Center paid for packaging and shipping of over 2,000,000 copies of hunting and angling regulations, 225,000 lottery application worksheets/winner notices, and the printing and mailing of 248,500 pictorial stamps to individual licensees.
- **Lotteries:** The License Center awards hunting permits through a lottery process where the demand for permits exceeds the allowable harvest.
- **Special hunts:** Wildlife management determines the need for special hunts. A special hunt may extend a particular season, add a new harvest season or increase the harvest of a species in a geographic location. The License Center publicizes special hunts as they are announced and coordinates the sale of permits.
- **Information line:** Sales agents and the License Center provide a phone number for hunters, anglers and commercial licensees to call with questions and requests for information. In fiscal year 2007, this telephone help desk received over 40,000 calls from its sales agents, individuals and commercial interests.

All lifetime licenses must be purchased through the License Center in St. Paul. In fiscal year 2007, the License Center issued 2,069 new lifetime licenses. Hunters and anglers who purchase a lifetime license, are required to validate the annual use of their lifetime license. The validation is a non-cash transaction done through a sales agent or the License Center in St. Paul.



# Ecological Resources

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

## Ecological Resources

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 2,256
Heritage Enhancement Account (239)	<u>1,869</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,125</u>

### Expenditure Analysis

In fiscal year 2007, the Game and Fish Fund provided a total of \$4.125 million or approximately 17% of the Division's expended non-bond funding. Other significant revenue sources include the General Fund, Natural Resources Fund, Environmental Trust Fund, and Federal fund. Within the Game and Fish Fund there are two major funding sources that supported natural resource work in Ecological Resources in fiscal year 2007:

- Game and Fish Operating Fund dollars support traditional game and fish activities in the Division's four key resource areas and a portion of the Division's operations support. The total appropriation to the Division has remained relatively constant the past several years.
- Heritage Enhancement Funds were also directed at the Division's four resource areas and a portion of the Division's operations support.

In fiscal year 2007, the Game and Fish operating funds were directed at 13 programs: prairie stewardship, aquatic plants, lake assessments, aquatic invertebrates, stream habitat protection, Mississippi River management, lake habitat protection, fish contaminants, pathology lab, natural resource damage assessments, environmental review and wetlands, planning and coordination, and information systems. The Heritage Enhancement funds were directed at 12 programs: natural heritage, nongame wildlife, native prairie stewardship, county biological survey, aquatic plants, stream habitat protection, lake habitat protection, invasive species, education and information delivery, environmental review and wetlands, planning and coordination, and information systems. Table 29 on page 34 presents a five-year summary of program expenditures in the Game and Fish and Heritage Enhancement funds.

Fiscal year 2007 expenditures are summarized by the Division's four resource areas and for Division support (Table 24). Division support includes headquarters operations, administration, training, and equipment expenditures that are not directly associated with one of the 21 programs. Costs for department operations support (\$206 thousand in Game and Fish and \$35 thousand in Heritage Enhancement) are spread across the programs. The reported expenditures are only from the Game and Fish Fund and Heritage Enhancement Account.

### Outcome Goals

The Ecological Resources Subcommittee of the Citizens' Budget Oversight Committee has identified four "outcome goals" all of which fall into the "Lakes and Rivers" resource area:

- Insure ecologically sustainable river and stream resources that provide healthy fish and aquatic invertebrate populations and recreational opportunities.
- No net loss of emergent or floating-leaf vegetation on any lake.
- Double the percentage of lakeshore owners seeking permits in relation to the volume of aquatic herbicides sold.
- Insure that lake improvement and management efforts are guided by the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Many of the outcomes listed under Lakes and Rivers in the next section ("Description of Annual Outcomes") support the outcome goals to insure ecologically sustainable river and stream resources and that lake improvement and management efforts are guided by the most accurate and up-to-date information.

## Ecological Resources

**Table 24**  
**Expenditures by Resource Area**  
**(In Thousands)**

	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lakes & Rivers	\$ 1,092	\$ 167	\$ 1,259
Ecosystem Health	440	172	612
Integrated Conservation Information	460	537	997
Nongame & Rare Resources	67	984	1,051
Division Support	197	9	206
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,256</u>	<u>\$ 1,869</u>	<u>\$ 4,125</u>

The DNR does not currently have aquatic plant data that would allow the goal of no net loss of emergent or floating-leaf vegetation to be evaluated. The DNR has been working extensively on improving the aquatic plant management program and is currently working on proposed rules to increase protection of aquatic plants and provide more guidance for permit decision-making.

### Description of Annual Outcomes

The following summarizes the principal activities, expenditures, and outcomes for each of the four resource areas and Division support.

#### 1. Lakes and Rivers

##### Activities:

- Assess the diversity, distribution and abundance of native aquatic plant communities.
- Provide oversight for the regulation of lake aeration.
- Assess aquatic invertebrate populations to support fisheries management and research needs.
- Protect and restore Minnesota's streams and rivers.
- Conduct monitoring and management programs for the Mississippi River and coordinate with other states on Mississippi River management.
- Protect and restore Minnesota's lakes.

##### Outcomes:

#### A. Aquatic Plants

- Provided aquatic plant information to the public.
- Provided aquatic plant survey methodology technical assistance to DNR Fish and Wildlife staff, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, private consultants, the Wisconsin DNR, the Iowa DNR, the EPA, The Nature Conservancy and the public.
- Worked with DNR Fisheries Research to develop aquatic plant monitoring component for a long-term lake ecology study.
- Continued coordination with DNR Fisheries and Wildlife to maintain consistency in collection and management of aquatic plant data.

## Ecological Resources

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- Organized an aquatic plant identification workshop that was attended by nearly 100 DNR Fish and Wildlife biologists.
  - Conducted GIS-based, quantitative vegetation surveys on 10 lakes (approx. 13,000 acres) in Cass, Crow Wing and Hubbard counties; *(four of these were the Cass County lakes listed under Lake Habitat Protection)*.
  - Completed vegetation survey reports for 10 lakes *(four of these were the Cass County lakes referenced under Lake Habitat Protection)*.
  - Provided technical assistance to DNR MinnAqua Program.
- B. Lake Aeration
- Issued 284 aeration permits; a total of about 121,441 surface water acres were aerated.
  - Increased coordination on aeration inspections with the Division of Fish and Wildlife and Enforcement.
  - Provided technical assistance to the public concerning aeration system types and regulatory requirements.
- C. Aquatic Invertebrates
- Analyzed samples and provided data on aquatic invertebrates for four area fisheries offices.
  - Analyzed zooplankton samples for three fisheries management projects.
  - Analyzed zooplankton samples for cooperative long-term resource monitoring program on Lake Pepin.
  - Reviewed and issued permits for mosquito and black fly control operations in metropolitan and out-state areas to insure that fish and wildlife resources were adequately protected.
  - Provided technical assistance for the Marsh Lake rehabilitation project.
- D. Stream Habitat Protection
- Provided technical design assistance for eight dam removal/conversion projects, seven channel restoration projects, ten fish passage projects, and four barriers.
  - Continued monitoring the Straight River physical and biological response to a restoration project.
  - Continued data collection for modeling on the Little Fork River at Deadman's Rapids to establish habitat-flow relationships for a sturgeon spawning area.
  - Continued monitoring stream physical characteristics on the Kettle, Whitewater, and Root rivers.
  - Provided technical assistance and recommendations to address the potential impacts of the APEC ethanol plant proposals on the Pomme De Terre River system.
  - Continued project to establish a GIS-based watershed assessment tool to provide resource managers with information on the health of Minnesota watersheds; assessment tools were developed statewide for the major watersheds.
  - Reviewed hydropower license or re-license applications for four facilities; provided major assistance in developing annual operation plans and guidelines for Winton and St. Louis River hydropower projects.
  - Continued long-term fish community sampling on the Yellow Medicine and Otter Tail rivers.
- E. Mississippi River Management
- Continued to provide technical assistance for river restoration efforts to improve fish and wildlife enhancement.
  - Continued to participate in the evaluation of the effects of the Pool 5 and 6 draw down to reestablish emergent marsh plants for fish and wildlife enhancement.
  - Participated in invertebrate and sediment sampling for Pigs Eye Lake as related to potential impacts from an historical dumpsite.
  - Represented DNR on the Science Advisory Team for the Lake Pepin TMDL.
- F. Lake Habitat Protection
- Provided funds for cormorant control on Leech Lake
  - Developed and conducted 110 vegetation surveys to identify sensitive areas on four Cass County lakes.
  - Tested field protocols for describing and delineating priority bulrush stands.
  - Developed protocols for citizen-based assessment of shoreline habitat.
  - Developed survey methodology manual for vegetation assessments.



**Ecological Resources**

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**Table 25  
Lakes and Rivers Expenditures  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Program Activity</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aquatic Plants	\$ 47	\$ 23	\$ 70
Lake Assessments (aeration)	21	-	21
Aquatic Invertebrates	33	-	33
Stream Habitat Protection	801	75	876
Mississippi River Mgmt	101	-	101
Lake Habitat Protection	89	69	158
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,092</u>	<u>\$ 167</u>	<u>\$ 1,259</u>

**2. Ecosystem Health**

**Activities:**

- Assess and improve health of fish in DNR hatcheries and rearing ponds, provide fish health monitoring services to private aquaculture facilities, and assess health of wild populations of fish and wildlife.
- Assess damage to fish or wildlife associated with spill or kill events.
- Conduct surveys and research on terrestrial invasive species and develop plans to manage invasive species on DNR lands.

**Outcomes:**

A. Pathology Lab

- Conducted fish health inspections at 10 DNR and 12 private hatcheries; about 8,700 fish samples were tested from DNR hatcheries and 1,300 from private hatcheries.
- Assessed health of 13 wild fish populations from specific locations to support DNR fish culture operations including muskellunge from two lakes, steelhead from two rivers, lake trout from two lakes, and channel catfish from three lakes.
- Monitored 13 fish species from the St. Louis River Estuary and Lake Superior for VHS, a virus that has caused significant fish kills in other states.
- Investigated 12 fish kill cases.
- Continued screening of lake sturgeon for viral diseases.
- Tested 23 walleye rearing ponds for Heterosporis, a fish parasite that has been found in yellow perch in some Minnesota lakes.
- Screened nine lakes for largemouth bass virus.
- Monitored and reported to FDA on new therapeutics being used in Minnesota for fish culture operations to ensure that state fish hatcheries have minimum losses due to infectious diseases.
- Coordinated vaccination of brood stock populations in five state fish hatcheries.

B. Natural Resource Damages

- Responded to 243 reports of spills and fish/wildlife kill incidents, including 61 reports of petroleum releases, 29 waste water treatment or septic releases, 11 reports of manure spills, and 142 reports of spills/kills involving various products and diseases.

## Ecological Resources

- Participated in natural resource damage assessments at five sites, one of which was completed.
- C. Terrestrial Invasive Species (outcomes were also supported with other funding sources)
- Coordinated efforts to improve management of terrestrial invasive plants on state-managed lands.
  - Implemented a grant program and awarded \$168,000 for 21 projects (includes Heritage and State Wildlife Grant dollars) to carry out inventories and management of terrestrial invasive plants on DNR managed lands.
  - Mapped more than 873 locations of invasive plant species in 17 state parks, 3 wildlife management areas, and 1 state trail.
  - Finalized the development of an Invasive Species Operations Order that provides departmental direction for divisions in the prevention of the movement and management of invasive plants during DNR activities.
  - Developed a series of seven workshops that provide field staff with information on invasive species management, control, and prevention and introduced staff to the requirements outlined in the Invasive Species Operations Order.
  - Initiated the development of divisional guidelines that provide specific direction to field staff regarding implementation of the Invasive Species Operations Order.
  - Supported research to develop biological control for garlic mustard and buckthorn.
  - Supported research to improve control of Canada thistle.

**Table 26**  
**Ecosystem Health Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<u>Program Activity</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fish Contaminants	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 2
Pathology Lab	404	-	404
Natural Resource Damages	34	-	34
Invasive Species	-	172	172
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 440</b>	<b>\$ 172</b>	<b>\$ 612</b>

### 3. Integrated Conservation Information

#### Activities:

- Provide public information and educational outreach.
- Review and comment on environmental documents including Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAWs), Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), and permits, and coordinate DNR involvement on development projects to reduce or mitigate for environmental impacts.
- Assess the quantity and quality of wetlands
- Conduct fish and wildlife planning.
- Maintain a comprehensive information system for ecological data.

#### Outcomes:

##### A. Education & Information Delivery

- Purchased 700 Project Wild curriculum guides
- Purchased Project Wild educational kit replacement materials
- Continued development of an online reference for state listed species called the Rare Species Guide.
- Converted the shoreland management tool "Restore your Shore" from CD-ROM format to the web.

## Ecological Resources

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- Integrated content from the state wildlife action plan "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare" into the newly renovated Minnesota Trail and the Minnesota Zoo.
- B. Environmental Review & Wetlands (outcomes were also supported with dollars from the General Fund, Water Recreation Account, and Off-Highway Vehicle Account)
- Conducted first field season of data collection for the statewide wetland monitoring project.
  - Reviewed 1,340 documents connected with 832 public and private development projects, including 109 residential developments, 191 transportation projects, 61 recreation and entertainment projects, 81 commercial or industrial developments, 70 utility or transmission lines (including 13 wind power projects) and 106 communications towers.
  - Provided comments on environmental assessment worksheets and national pollutant discharge elimination system permits regarding phosphorus and other pollutant load reduction strategies for 36 municipal wastewater treatment facilities and other major dischargers.
  - Completed Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAW) for the Valley Creek and Wisel Creek restoration projects; worked on EAW preparation for the Dark River stream restoration, Pelican Lake and Lake Christina wildlife habitat projects and the North Country recreational trail.
  - Completed EAW and EIS preparation for private development projects including Wilton Gravel, Mittal Steel, Minnesota Steel, and UPM/Blandin. Worked on EAW and EIS preparation for PolyMet and Premier Peat.
  - Contributed to EAW preparation and determination of groundwater, fish and wildlife habitat, and water quality effects for 26 ethanol project proposals.
  - Helped develop new proposed rules for environmental review thresholds for lakeshore development and cumulative impact assessment.
- C. Planning and Coordination
- Helped organize, facilitate, and manage the Fisheries, Wildlife, and Ecological Roundtable stakeholder meetings.
  - Helped design and facilitate deer population goal setting meetings in western and southern Minnesota
  - Helped design and facilitate seven fisheries issues stakeholder workshops focused on the walleye, muskie, northern pike, bass, and panfish fisheries.
  - Helped design and facilitate the initial planning meeting of the Midwest Inland Lakes Habitat Action Planning Project.
  - Helped design and facilitate a DNR Senior Managers meeting on Climate Change and its impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
  - Helped design and facilitate a workshop focused on monitoring effects of climate change on lake systems.
  - Helped coordinate the implementation of Minnesota's state wildlife action plan (Tomorrow's Habitat) as a tool to protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat in Minnesota.
- D. Information Systems
- Updated data on the division web page, including designs for a web-based watershed assessment tool, rule revision pages and comment forms, decision tree for aquatic plant permitting, invasive species pages, and environmental review.
  - Implemented a data mart so that data produced by the division can be accessed in a common format.
  - Improved access to rare species information and reduced time required to produce reports.
  - Provided data administration and system support for the Natural Heritage Information System, including BIOTICS, colonial waterbirds, plant community and stream habitat databases.
  - Managed database for the Rare Species Guide web application, including synchronizing data with the BIOTICS system.
  - Installed and configured a new application server for the aquatic plant management program, enabling users to update a common database and enabling a web interface for the application.
  - Managed the division desktop backup system.
  - Provided support to staff on information system issues and problems including sharing data via FTP, archiving electronic data, migration of data to new servers, hardware purchases, generating reports, application and database design, and general trouble-shooting.

## Ecological Resources

**Table 27**  
**Integrated Conservation Information Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<u>Program Activity</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
Education & Information Delivery	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 31
Environmental Review & Wetlands	385	364	749
Planning & Coordination	25	11	36
Information Systems	50	131	181
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 460</b>	<b>\$ 537</b>	<b>\$ 997</b>

#### 4. Nongame & Rare Resources

##### Activities:

- Provide natural heritage information for rare species.
- Conduct nongame wildlife field projects.
- Provide assistance to private landowners to manage native prairie.
- Collect data on rare plants, animals, and natural communities in each of Minnesota's counties.

##### Outcomes:

###### A. Natural Heritage

- Produced rare species data extracts and filled 60 requests for rare species data.

###### B. Nongame Wildlife (outcomes were also supported with other funding sources)

- Lakescaping projects: Beltrami, Hubbard, Cass, Ottertail, Douglas, Becker, and Crow Wing counties.
- Prairie bluff habitat restoration for timber rattlesnakes on 18 sites.
- OHV trail planning/forest certification.
- Bird surveys including bald eagles, loons, trumpeter swans, goshawks, burrowing owls, colonial waterbirds, piping plover, marbled godwit, and sandpiper.
- Ring-billed gull control in Duluth Harbor.
- Statewide frog and toad survey.
- Wood turtle survey: St. Louis River.
- Karner blue butterfly survey.
- Timber rattlesnake survey.

###### C. Native Prairie Stewardship (outcomes were also supported with other funding sources)

- Purchased a brush cutter head to accelerate the control of invasive woody species on both public and private native prairies and grasslands in cooperation with the Section of Wildlife.
- Prepared 15 prairie stewardship plans for private landowners.
- Implemented prairie enhancement projects with 17 landowners.
- Completed 91 prairie management projects on private lands including: woody encroachment removal 365 acres, 20 sites; invasive species control 2,522 acres, 20 sites; prairie restorations, reconstructions, inter-seedings 288 acres, 12 sites; burn break establishment 8 miles, 21 sites; and prescribed burns 614 acres, 18 sites.

## Ecological Resources

- Organized and participated in eight prairie workshops and field tours promoting prairie protection and management to landowners and agency staff.

### D. County Biological Survey

- Field surveys were completed in Becker County, and continue in Hubbard and Wadena counties.
- Field surveys were completed in Lyon, Rock, Nobles and Pipestone counties of southwestern MN and continue in Cottonwood, Jackson, Murray, and Lincoln counties.
- Added 335 locations of rare features to the statewide database.
- Added 94 relevés (vegetation samples) to the statewide database, and posted the methodology on the web: *A handbook for collecting relevé data in Minnesota*.
- Participated in forest certification, discussions of prairie biofuels and local ecotypes, and Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy monitoring implementation.
- Collaborated in the field training of DNR managers and others in the use of the DNR field guides to the native plant communities of Minnesota.
- Continued development of a statewide database of plant names and synonymy.

**Table 28**  
**Non Game and Rare Resources Expenditures**  
**(In Thousands)**

<u>Program Activity</u>	<u>Game &amp; Fish</u>	<u>Heritage Enhancement</u>	<u>Total</u>
Natural Heritage Program	\$ -	\$ 8	\$ 8
Nongame Wildlife	-	217	217
Native Prairie Stewardship	67	190	257
Minnesota County Biological Survey	-	569	569
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$ 67</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 984</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,051</u></b>

## 5. Division Support

### Activities:

- Provide for administration and facility support for the Division.
- Fund equipment for division programs.

### Outcomes:

#### A. Headquarters Operations/Administration

- Includes administrative support, management, and supervision, Ecological Resources' share of the expenses for the Fish and Wildlife and Ecological Resources administrative unit, office rent, utilities, workers compensation, office supplies, Attorney General's Office fees, and pro-rated costs for four regional liaisons.

#### B. Equipment

- Includes fleet charges for Division vehicles and other equipment not directly tied to a specific program outcome.

**Ecological Resources**

**Table 29  
Summary of Historical Expenditures  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Program Area</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>1. Lakes &amp; Rivers</b>					
Lake Mapping	\$ 52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Aquatic Plants	266	222	298	108	70
Lake Assessments (aeration & water quality)	21	33	29	25	21
Aquatic Invertebrates	20	31	51	31	33
Stream Habitat Protection & Miss. River Mgmt	306	427	723	723	977
Lake Habitat Protection	-	-	39	17	158
<b>2. Ecosystem Health</b>					
Fish Contaminants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ -	\$ 2
Pathology Laboratory	288	283	338	302	404
Natural Resource Damages	45	47	45	50	34
Terrestrial Invasive Species	-	57	138	99	172
<b>3. Integrated Conservation Information</b>					
Education & Information Delivery	\$ 380	\$ 40	\$ 147	\$ 7	\$ 31
Environmental Review & Wetlands	87	133	316	485	749
Planning & Coordination	141	82	114	22	36
Information Systems <sup>1</sup>	143	77	148	144	181
<b>4. Nongame &amp; Rare Resources</b>					
Natural Heritage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 2	\$ 8
Nongame Wildlife	451	128	208	146	217
Native Prairie Stewardship	76	55	126	94	257
County Biological Survey	796	429	651	553	569
<b>5. Division Support<sup>2</sup></b>					
Administration, Headquarters Operations, Equipment	\$ 203	\$ 269	\$ 261	\$ 209	\$ 206
<b>6. Wildlife Conservation &amp; Restoration<sup>3</sup></b>					
	750	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$4,025</u>	<u>\$2,313</u>	<u>\$3,683</u>	<u>\$3,017</u>	<u>\$4,125</u>

<sup>1</sup> Prior to fiscal year 2004, "Information Systems" was titled "Information Systems & Communications" and included other items such as administrative support services that have since been included in "Division Support."

<sup>2</sup> Division support costs are not strictly comparable across years; in fiscal year 2001 the former Section of Ecological Resources became a full division.

<sup>3</sup> Of the \$750 thousand reported here for the fiscal year 2003 Wildlife Conservation and Restoration (WCR) expenditures, Fisheries spent a total of \$100 thousand, \$57 thousand was spent by Wildlife, and Ecological Resources spent \$593 thousand. For ease of reporting on the entire WCR program, all expenses were summarized under Ecological Resources' account.



# Enforcement

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**Enforcement**

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 18,386
Heritage Enhancement Account (239)	<u>1,202</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 19,588</u></u>

The Division of Enforcement is responsible for ensuring public safety and compliance with state game and fish, recreational vehicle and natural resource commercial operation laws in order to protect Minnesota's natural resources.

Major responsibilities include law enforcement, public safety and education in:

- Hunting and fishing seasons, methods of taking animals and fish, bag and possession limits;
- Public safety, especially where it concerns alcohol use while hunting or operating recreational vehicles and watercraft;
- Commercial use and possession of natural resources and products;
- The protection of the state's land, air and water;
- Youth and adult safety training and hunter education classes.

Enforcement expenditures totaled more than \$30.720 million in fiscal year 2007. Of this total, Game & Fish Fund Operations accounted for \$18.386 million, or 60% of total expenditures. Division goals relating to game and fish enforcement have been met or exceeded in all priority work areas. Maintaining an increased effort on fishing enforcement, specifically on experimental and special regulation waters was an especially high priority. The Enforcement Game and Fish Fund Operations costs displayed below have been estimated based on the distribution of hours attributable to each function.

<b>Table 30 Program Activity Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>			
	<b>Game &amp; Fish</b>	<b>Heritage</b>	<b>Total</b>
Division Support	\$ 384	\$ -	\$ 384
Fishing Regulation	8,821	661	9,482
Hunting Regulation	7,201	541	7,742
Safety Training	900	-	900
Commercial Activities / Special Investigations	<u>1,080</u>	-	<u>1,080</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 18,386</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,202</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 19,588</u></u>



## Enforcement

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### **Expenditure Analysis:**

Included in the total time expended on fishing and hunting regulation, safety training, commercial regulation and special investigations, is a pro-rated portion of costs associated with support staff and operational expenses, radio dispatching services, fleet vehicles, equipment maintenance, officer training and regional administrative, supervisory, technology, leave and indirect costs.

### **Division Support**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$384 thousand on division support, which includes unemployment and workers compensation, five support staff and one supervisor.

### **Fishing Regulation (non-commercial)**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$8.821 million on angler license checks, enforcement of regulations including experimental and special regulation waters, shelter house regulation, regulation of gill netting, protection of spawning fish populations, and public information/education service. Maintaining increased levels of fishing enforcement, including special efforts on Red Lake and the Rainy River, was a priority this past year.

### **Hunting Regulation**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$7.201 million in support of this activity, which includes hunting license checks, enforcement of regulations relating to big game, small game, migratory waterfowl, trapping, taking wild animals with the use of a light, public information and education services, and assistance to wildlife with survey and census of animal populations. Recent priorities have included the Waterfowl Task Force and TB in elk and deer populations. Maintaining increased levels of waterfowl enforcement was a priority this year, and the division was very effective as Minnesota led the member states of the Mississippi Flyway in enforcement activity.

### **Safety Training**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$900 thousand in support of Youth Firearm Safety Program and Advanced Hunter Education Program. These programs certified 24,529 Minnesota youth and adults in programs that taught safe firearm handling, basic law information, game identification, hunter ethics, and hunter/landowner relations. Other education programs this year include Bow-hunter Education, Bear, and Turkey clinics and involved 2,016 students.

### **Commercial Activities/Special Investigations**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$1.080 million in support of commercial regulatory activities and special investigations. Special investigations are geared toward the identification and apprehension of individuals involved in large-scale poaching activities or commercializing fish and game for their own profit and benefit. Other activities include the regulation of the fur industry, commercial fishing, illegal taking and transportation of big game across state lines, minnow harvest, shooting preserves, ginseng harvest, game farms and illegal sale of protected species. The Lake Superior Marine Unit is focusing on commercial fishing regulations as well as sport fishing efforts.

### **Dedicated Accounts - Heritage Enhancement**

The Division of Enforcement spent \$1.202 million from the Heritage Enhancement Account on:

- (1) Equipment - Unserviceable equipment was replaced for Conservation Officers use in the performance of their duties in game and fish enforcement work. These items include boats, motors, trailers, binoculars, cameras, spotting scopes, canoes, safety equipment, and other miscellaneous items.
- (2) Fuel Costs - The division maintained mileage allotments for Conservation Officers. Officers were provided with adequate fleet funding to maintain effective patrol.
- (3) Vacant Field Stations - The division is in the process of hiring up to eighteen officers and plans on holding an academy in April 2008. This will maintain the Division at full complement.

**Enforcement**

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**Table 31**  
**Historical Game and Fish Fund Expenditures**  
**Last Five Fiscal Years**  
**(In Thousands)**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Division Support	\$ 2,908	\$ -	\$ 433	\$ 473	\$ 384
Fishing Regulation	7,200	7,587	8,330	8,617	9,482
Hunting Regulation	5,747	5,951	6,802	7,035	7,742
Safety Training	1,092	1,085	753	816	900
Commercial Activities/Special Investigations	552	200	904	980	1,080
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 17,499</u>	<u>\$ 14,823</u>	<u>\$ 17,222</u>	<u>\$ 17,921</u>	<u>\$ 19,588</u>

**Table 32**  
**Outcomes by Activity**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Licensed Game Farm Operators	521
Firearm Safety / Advance Education Program Graduates	24,529
Bowhunter Education, Bear & Turkey Clinics	2,016
Game & Fish Law Violations Written	11,343
Game & Fish Law Warnings Written	15,276



# Trails and Waterways

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**Trails & Waterways**

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 2,709
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,709

The purpose of the Water Recreation Program is to provide the public with water-based recreational boating and fishing opportunities and services. These activities provide the public with access (M.S. 97A.141) to lakes, streams, river corridors and designated canoe and boating routes (M.S. 85.32) for boaters, anglers, paddlers and other users. Safe harbors (M.S. 86A20-24) on Lake Superior provide trailerable boat access and boat slips for larger boats in a protected harbor.

In fiscal year 2007, the Game and Fish Fund provided \$2.7 million or 35% of the total funds expended in the water recreation program. Federal funds for the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Program are provided by boaters through the federal gas tax based on boater usage, an excise tax on boating equipment, fishing tackle, and other related funding sources. The federal law requires that at least 15% of the funds apportioned to the state each year be spent for acquisition, development, and renovation or improvement of motorboat access for recreational boating purposes. Authorization for the acquisition, development and maintenance of water access sites is provided for in M.S. 97A.141. State law requires that federal reimbursement for boat access projects be deposited to the Game and Fish Fund.

The Water Recreation Program utilizes Game and Fish Funds to accelerate efforts to improve the quantity and quality of boating access throughout the state. These funds are used primarily for the purchase of land for new access sites or the expansion of existing sites, construction of new access sites, rehabilitation of existing sites and for purchasing site amenities.

Additional expenses from this fund include site amenities and professional services. Site amenities are boat ramp planks, boat docks, access maps and signs. Professional services include contract expenses for archaeological work relating to the acquisition and development of public water access projects. Other professional services are for land acquisition and site development expenses paid to the Division of Lands & Minerals and the Management Resources Bureau.

For the first time in fiscal year 2006, Game and Fish funds were used for the maintenance and operation of fishing piers (previously paid from the Water Recreation account). The Game and Fish funds for fishing piers are distributed throughout the state to provide much needed maintenance dollars for over 300 piers and shorefishing sites statewide.

Land acquisition, development projects, site amenities and professional services funded in fiscal year 2007 are listed in Table 33. Land acquisition costs totaled \$1.339 million. Development projects totaled \$662 thousand. Site amenities and professional services totaled \$595 thousand. Table 34 displays outcomes for Water Recreation activities for fiscal year 2007. Table 35 highlights the historical Game & Fish Fund expenditures from fiscal years 2003 thru 2007.

**Trails & Waterways**

**Table 33  
Trails and Waterways Projects  
(In Thousands)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Land Acquisition</b>		
Leighton Lake	Itasca	\$ 2
Stalker Lake	Otter Tail	2
Star Lake	Otter Tail	3
Leech Lake	Cass	231
Kasota Lake	Kandiyohi	100
North Turtle Lake	Otter Tail	128
Mille Lacs	Aitkin	519
Girl Lake	Cass	154
Pike Lake	Cook	<u>200</u>
Total Land Acquisition		\$ 1,339
<b>Development Projects</b>		
Belle Lake	Meeker	\$ 11
Mille Lacs Lake – Liberty Beach	Mille Lacs	171
Lake Sarah	Murray	3
Clear Water Lake	Stearns	3
Fountain Lake	Freeborn	40
Lake Superior – Horseshoe Bay	Cook	<u>434</u>
Total Development Projects		\$ 662
<b>Site Amenities and Professional Services</b>		
Concrete Boat Ramp Planks	Statewide	\$ 21
Courtesy Docks	Statewide	236
Access Maps	Statewide	36
Program Archaeology	Statewide	114
Lands and Minerals Division professional services	Statewide	48
Management Resources Bureau professional services	Statewide	103
Miscellaneous acquisition fees/charges	Statewide	15
Miscellaneous development expenses	Statewide	17
Miscellaneous administrative expenses	Statewide	<u>5</u>
Total Site Amenities and Professional Services		\$ 595
<b>Fishing Pier</b>		
Fishing Pier Program Maintenance	Statewide	\$ 110
Fishing Pier Maps	Statewide	<u>3</u>
Total Fishing Pier		\$ 113
Total Program Expenditures		<u><u>\$ 2,709</u></u>

\*Total projects costs for some land acquisition and development projects are not reflected in this table because some projects were paid over two fiscal years or partially funded from other funding sources.

**Table 34  
Outcomes**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Number Completed</u>
Land Acquisition	9
Site Development	6
Concrete Boat Ramp Planks/Connectors	1,934 / 4,832
Courtesy Docks/Dock Parts	48 / 642
Access Maps	34,500
Fishing Pier Maps	5,000

**Table 35  
Historical Game and Fish Fund Expenditures  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,626</u>	<u>\$ 1,701</u>	<u>\$ 2,109</u>	<u>\$ 1,312</u>	<u>\$ 2,709</u>



# Forestry

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**Forestry**

<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Heritage Enhancement Account (239)	\$ 221
Total Expenditures	\$ 221

The Division of Forestry administers approximately 4.0 million acres of forestlands. Annually, approximately 30,000 acres are harvested and regenerated by planting seedlings, direct seeding, and natural regeneration. Harvesting actions and regeneration techniques are chosen to help address biodiversity concerns and to enhance habitat for all species of flora and fauna.

Forestry spent \$221 thousand from the Heritage Enhancement Account in fiscal year 2007 to better insure that harvesting and regeneration efforts are based on an ecological land classification system (ECS) that identifies Native Plant Communities (NPC). Identifying NPCs allow forestry personnel to better make management decisions that focus on the entire stand or plant community, and not just on the trees. Managing the plant communities rather than the trees provides more opportunities to focus on developing greater biodiversity and more effectively addressing habitat needs.

Funds have allowed access to ecological expertise to develop and conduct training of forestry personnel, and begin to develop a connection between ecological principles and silvicultural actions and decisions made by the foresters by developing silvicultural interpretations based on Native Plant Communities.

Training is critical to introduce and sustain the use of ecological field keys, and the application of information found in the field keys. Some of the training effort in fiscal year 2007 included:

- Completed all required training for Area offices with lands in the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province.
- Completed improvements to the ECS basic training curriculum for entry-level professional foresters (ELPFs).
- Three courses lasting 15 days were completed and over 30 ELPFs were in attendance.
- Prepared material and taught a soils module for two groups in the Ecological Silviculture course.
- Assisted Natural Heritage Program by training their instructors who will provide ECS field training for general DNR staff and for the Prairie Province.

Silvicultural interpretations are the link between the ecological characteristics of the Native Plant Community and the forest management actions taken to manage the community. The information in the interpretations provides the basis for deciding the appropriate actions to take to improve habitat, address biodiversity needs, provide wood products for the timber industry, and to manage the forest stand in a sustainable manner.

In fiscal year 2007, Heritage Enhancement Account funds allowed the Division of Forestry to develop silvicultural interpretations for 10 Native Plant Communities, which account for an estimated 50% of the forested lands administered by the division.

<b>Table 36 Historical Game and Fish Fund Expenditures Last Five Fiscal Years (In Thousands)</b>					
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 223	\$ 159	\$ 316	\$ 250	\$ 221





# Lands and Minerals

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

## Lands and Minerals

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 1,007
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,007</u>

The Division of Lands and Minerals manages real estate transactions on approximately 5.6 million acres of state-owned land and manages about 12 million acres of state mineral rights. About 1.2 million acres of land are administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, most of which are designated as Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs), and Fish Management Areas (FMAs).

The division is responsible for land surveys and managing various real estate transactions on game and fish lands for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Real estate transactions include acquisitions, sales, exchanges, easements, permits, licenses, and leases. The above activities are paid for from the Game and Fish Fund appropriation, with the exception of acquisition services, which are billed directly to the Division of Fish and Wildlife through an internal account mechanism.

The expenditures included staffing costs, rentals, professional and technical contracts, supplies and equipment, Attorney General costs, and department governance charges.

### Land Survey

Land surveys conducted for management purposes on game and fish lands are charged to the division's Game and Fish Fund Appropriation. Fish and Wildlife staff set the priority for the land surveys through work orders, or requisitions, submitted to the land survey staff. Fish and Wildlife staff can change work priorities at any time and can track the progress of the survey work on the DNR intranet. The Division of Lands and Minerals also provides the Division of Fish and Wildlife a quarterly report of surveys completed.

The following table provides information on land survey services provided for game and fish lands in fiscal year 2007. Historically, staff surveyors complete most of the surveys; however, in fiscal year 2007, two project requests were contracted to private survey firms. The division is in the process of hiring an addition land survey crew that will be dedicated to surveys of Fish and Wildlife administered lands, predominantly Wildlife Management Areas. In fiscal year 2007, the survey section also completed thirteen surveys related to land acquisition, which were billed to the Division of Fish and Wildlife through the Professional Services Account.

**Table 37**  
**Land Surveys on Game and Fish Lands**

**Management Type**

<u>County</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Services Provided</u>
<b>Aquatic Management Area (AMA)</b>		
Faribault	Blue Earth River	Boundary Survey
Scott	Eagle Creek	Boundary Survey
<b>Ecological Services (ECO)</b>		
	Lands and Minerals Administrative	Ecological Services/Tech Assistance
<b>Fisheries Miscellaneous (FIM)</b>		
	Lands and Minerals Administrative	Fisheries/Tech Assistance
Nicollet	Middle Lake	Elevation Survey
<b>Fisheries Management Area (FMA)</b>		
Becker	Sallie Lake	
Ottertail	Toad River (Big Pine Lake)	Boundary Survey
Todd	Little Swan Lake	Boundary Survey
<b>Native Prairie Bank (NPB)</b>		
Yellow Medicine	Stony Run 11	Boundary Survey
<b>Scientific and Natural Area (SNA)</b>		
Chippewa	Gneiss Outcrops	Boundary Survey
Fillmore	Cherry Grove Blind Valley	Boundary Survey
Fillmore	Wykoff Balsam Fir	Boundary Survey
Goodhue	Cannon River Turtle Preserve	Boundary Survey
Goodhue	North Fork Zumbro Woods	Boundary Survey
Itasca	Lady Tresses Swamp	Boundary Survey
Itasca	Lost 40	Boundary Survey
Lake	Sand Lake Peatland	Boundary Survey
Lake of the Woods	Gustafson's Camp	Boundary Survey
Ottertail	Ottertail Prairie	Boundary Survey
Wabasha	Bald Eagle Bluff	Boundary Survey
<b>Wildlife Miscellaneous (WLM)</b>		
Saint Louis	Meadowlands Brushland	Boundary Survey
<b>Wildlife Management Area (WMA)</b>		
	Lands and Minerals Administrative	Wildlife/Tech Assistance
Aitkin	Lawler	Boundary Survey
Aitkin	Mcgregor	Boundary Survey
Aitkin	Salo Marsh	Administrative Survey
Anoka	Lamprey Pass	Boundary Survey
Becker	Frank	Boundary Survey

**Table 37**  
**Land Surveys on Game and Fish Lands, Continued**

**Management Type**

<u>County</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Services Provided</u>
<b>Wildlife Management Area (WMA)</b>		
Beltrami	Red Lake	Boundary Survey
Cook	East Colvill	Boundary Survey
Dakota	Gores	Boundary Survey
Douglas	Osakis	Boundary Survey
Freeborn	Geneva Lake	Boundary Survey
Isanti	Rice Creek	Boundary Survey
Isanti	Dobe	Boundary Survey
Itasca	Bowstring Lake Deer Yard	Boundary Survey
Itasca	Nature Lake	Boundary Survey
Kanabec	Hay Snake	Boundary Survey
Kanabec	Ann Lake	Boundary Survey
Kanabec	Tosher Creek	Boundary Survey
Kittson	Devil's Playground	Boundary Survey
Kittson	Percy	Boundary Survey
Lake of the Woods	Rako Slough	Boundary Survey
LeSueur	Murphy	Boundary Survey
LeSueur	Sautter	Boundary Survey
Mcleod	Ras-lynn	Boundary Survey
Martin	Krahmer	Boundary Survey
Mille Lacs	Mille Lacs	Boundary Survey
Morrison	Nietermeier	Boundary Survey
Morrison	Sponsa	Boundary Survey
Murray	Hjermstad	Boundary Survey
Nicollet	Swan Lake	Elevation Survey
Ottertail	Long Branch Creek	Boundary Survey
Polk	Bee Lake	Boundary Survey
Polk	Godfrey	Boundary Survey
Polk	Maple Meadows	Boundary Survey
Polk	Tilden	Boundary Survey
Polk	Rosebud	Boundary Survey
Roseau	Hereim	Boundary Survey
Sibley	Spannaus	Boundary Survey
Swift	Camp Kerk	Boundary Survey
Todd	Burleene	Boundary Survey
Todd	Dower Lake	Boundary Survey
Traverse	Hunter's Paradise	Boundary Survey
Wadena	Menahga	Feasibility Survey
Wilkin	Rothsay	Boundary Survey

## Lands and Minerals

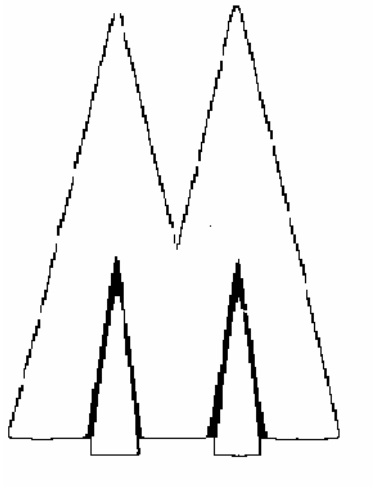
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### Real Estate

As of October 5, 2007, the division was administering 1,323 Fish and Wildlife real estate contracts of various types, including 629 cooperative farm agreements, and eight mineral leases. Region and Area Fish and Wildlife staff review all contract applications prior to their execution. These contracts generated revenue of \$189,035 that was deposited into the Game and Fish Fund. Fiscal year 2007 revenues increased over 50% from the previous year.

**Table 38**  
**Real Estate Contracts on Fish and Wildlife Administered Lands**

<u>Contract Type</u>	<u>Number of Contracts</u>	<u>Contract Acres</u>	<u>Revenue Generated</u>
Agricultural Lease	32	1,773	\$ 6,957
Cooperative Farming Agreement	629	28,968	77,097
Easement	328	1,440	20,512
Gravel Lease	8	68	50,472
Mineral Lease	8	2,400	4,602
Miscellaneous Leases	129	1,316	9,881
Utility License	189	754	<u>19,515</u>
Total Real Estate Contracts	1,323	36,720	<u>\$ 189,035</u>





# Operations Support & Indirect Costs

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

## Operations Support

<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 2,837
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,837</u>

<b>Table 39 Operations Support Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Management Resources *	\$ -
Human Resources *	-
Regional Operations	626
Commissioner's Office, Office of Management and Budget Services, and Information and Education	<u>2,211</u>
Operations Support Total	<u>\$ 2,837</u>

\* Receives no direct appropriation; operates on a fee for service basis.

Operations Support Program spent about \$34 million in fiscal year 2007 from all its funding sources, excluding spending on projects recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) from the Environmental Trust Fund, and local recreation grants from the Natural Resources Fund. The \$2.837 million spent from the Game and Fish Fund is 8% of total Operations Support Program spending.

### Management Resources

The Management Resources Bureau provides the following services to the agency:

- Centralized management of capital assets – acquisition, maintenance, operation, and disposal of all fleet equipment;
- Facilities management – assessment, maintenance and improvement of all buildings, space leasing, and disposal of unneeded structures;
- Design, engineering, and construction services – for all types of facilities and infrastructure;
- Materials management services – including purchasing, inventory, and disposal;
- Safety consultant services – including technical expertise, training, and worker's compensation management;
- Radio – purchase and maintenance of all radio base stations, mobile, and hand-held radios;
- Network applications, connectivity, telecommunications, software development, systems management, and computer support services.

The services provided by Management Resources assure DNR's management of natural resources is accomplished efficiently, cost effectively, and safely. The bureau ensures the equipment used is appropriate for the work to be done; facilities of all types are well designed and constructed; and the assets and interests of the state and the DNR are



## Operations Support

protected. In addition, the bureau ensures goods and services are purchased in compliance with all applicable policies and procedures. Finally, the bureau is the principal safety consultant to the agency, providing a policy and practice framework as well as technical expertise to DNR employees.

As an example of the importance of fleet management to game and fish programs, Fish and Wildlife employees drove over 3.6 million miles or about 21% of DNR's total mileage in fiscal year 2007. Enforcement employees drove more than 4.3 million miles, almost 26% of DNR's total fiscal year 2007 mileage, the majority of these miles attributed to enforcing game and fish laws. These two divisions also occupied over 660,000 square feet in DNR buildings, requiring property management services. Procurement of goods and services by Management Resources for Fish and Wildlife and Enforcement accounted for 19% of Management Resources' total procurement for the DNR in fiscal year 2007.

Management Resources also provides DNR staff with essential computer, information (data) management, and telecommunications. The Management Information Services (MIS) section provided technical assistance and expertise to resource managers on projects such as lake survey database integration, developing standard management reports for Fisheries managers, providing data processing support for fur-bearer records management, supporting Wildlife complaints incident management, and developing a system to support CWD and bovine TB field data collection. MIS also manages the DNR Web site, maintaining a wealth of data and information for hunters and anglers such as lake surveys, lake depth maps, hunting and fishing regulations, hunting lottery results, and Garmin GPS software.

**Table 40**  
**Operations Support**  
**Divisional Expenditures for**  
**Human Resources and Management Resources**  
**(In Thousands)**

Lands and Minerals	\$ 11
Fish Management	1,548
Wildlife Management	1,155
License Center	97
Ecological Services	241
Enforcement	864
Regional Operations	341
Information and Education	33
Office of Management and Budget	55
Commissioner's Office	15
Total Transfers to Divisions	<u>\$ 4,360</u>

## Human Resources

In fiscal year 2007, the Fish and Wildlife Division funded 594 full-time equivalents (FTEs) paid from the Game and Fish Fund; the Ecological Services Division funded 33; and the Enforcement Division funded 170. This total of 797 FTE's represents a greater number of people because it includes part time and seasonal employees. Business office staff in the regional offices and Human Resources in central and regional offices, support these employees by: processing payroll and business expenses, providing information on employee benefits, providing training, staffing, conservation officer recruitment and selection, and offering a wide range of human resource services to individual employees, managers, and supervisors.

## Operations Support

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### Regional Operations

Regional Operations is responsible for integrating DNR work at the regional level and for providing technical assistance, planning, and information and education services in the DNR's four regions. Regional Operations staff includes the regional director, planners, information officers, community coordinators and administrative support. Examples of activities and accomplishments in fiscal year 2007 include:

- Coordinated DNRs' role in the 2007 Governors' fishing and hunting openers.
- Coordinated a partnership with local and state organizations and private citizens to develop a plan and begin implementation for a State Recreation Area in the Cedar/Greenleaf lakes area.
- Coordinated a major 'Prairie Promotion Campaign' that will feature biofuels as an alternative to fossil fuels and highlight the conservation benefits of prairie and grassland. Three prairie 'webisodes' have been produced for use in electronic media and a new prairie web site is being developed for the DNR web that will serve as a 'one stop shop' for prairie information.
- Assisted in preparation and finalization of the \$900,000 Marsh Lake Project Management Plan and Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DNR.
- Entered into an agreement with Cygnus Companies (parent company of Farmfest) to plan and develop an 'Outdoor Sports Showcase' at Farmfest 07 on 40 acres of land adjacent to Farmfest. With the theme 'Kids and Conservation,' private landowners and their kids were the target audiences; the goal was to develop stronger partnerships with the agriculture community.
- Helped coordinate the planning and implementation of a major drawdown and rotenone treatment on Swan Lake, a major waterfowl/hunting lake in Nicollet County.
- Continued supporting wildlife, fisheries and enforcement staff in game and fish planning with the Red Lake, Leech Lake and White Earth Tribal Natural Resource agencies with special emphasis on ricing access and sturgeon restoration with White Earth.
- Developed over 50 fish and wildlife related news releases.
- Facilitated wildlife public meetings related to bovine tuberculosis between deer and cattle.
- Assisted fisheries staff in public outreach efforts related to sport fisheries on Leech, Red Lake and Lake of the Woods.
- Lead efforts to complete the Con Con ditch drainage rule making process that directly affects WMA's in Roseau, LOW, Marshal, Mahnomen and Beltrami Counties.
- Continued to assist wildlife staff in outreach to County Governments in access, water and land asset management issues related to WMA's in all NW Counties.
- Continued work with the Regional Enforcement Supervisor, BWSR, and DNR Wetland Enforcement Officers to develop a wetland project involving the use of aircraft to identify potential violations.
- Continued the DNRs' partnership with the National Guard and others to implement the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program to protect wildlife and fisheries habitat within a 3-mile buffer around Camp Ripley, to include negotiating acquisition of properties.
- completed efforts to develop a modified WMA, Vermillion Highlands a Research
- Recreation and Wildlife management Area with the University of MN and Dakota county.
- Managed the Metro Greenways and Metro Corridors Programs, providing protection for open space and habitat in the rapidly urbanizing central region
- Completed 18 workshop for local units of government, presenting the best practices in "Conservation Development" focused on conservation of habitat
- Worked with the City of Hugo in their land use planning to conserve the Paul Hugo farms WMA

**Operations Support**

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**Commissioner's Office, Office of Management and Budget Services and Information and Education Bureaus**

**Table 41  
Management Bureau Expenditures  
(In Thousands)**

Commissioners Office	\$ 344
Office of Management and Budget Services	1,163
Information and Education	<u>704</u>
Total Regional Expenditures	<u>\$ 2,211</u>

This portion of the Operations Support Program provides support services such as agency management and leadership; developing legislative issues and processes; working with media and the distribution of news releases; strategic and operational planning; financial management and reporting; budgeting and accounting; grant oversight and contract management; payroll and personnel management; training; citizen input and involvement; public information and outreach through the information center.

The Office of Management and Budget Services (OMBS) provided support in the areas of strategic and operational planning, budgeting, accounting and financial management, grant oversight, contract management, citizen input and involvement. Through its financial operations, OMBS has organized authorized Game and Fish fund spending into about thirty-two appropriations and over 735 allotment accounts, roughly 23% of the total allotment accounts in all funds. More than 250,000 accounting transactions were processed in the fund, about one third of the DNR's total accounting transactions for the year. OMBS prepares Game and Fish fund statements a minimum of four times each year and prepares the annual financial statements for this fund as part of the State Consolidated Annual Financial Report.

In fiscal year 2007 the DNR's Information Center spent more than 70% of its time answering questions and providing information on hunting, angling, game and fish enforcement and licensing topics. The Information Center answered about 132,000 telephone and voice mail inquiries, responded to over 31,000 e-mail messages, worked with almost 14,000 walk-in customers, and distributed approximately 642,000 pieces of literature. The Information Center is essential to communicating with constituents, providing timely information and receiving feedback important to DNR operations.

**Statewide Indirect Costs**

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<b>Game and Fish Fund Expenditures (In Thousands)</b>	
Game and Fish Fund Operations (230)	\$ 670
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 670</u>

Minnesota Statutes 16A.125 requires that each fund pay its share of statewide indirect costs. These are services provided by the Departments of Employee Relations, Finance, Administration, and the Offices of Mediation Services, the Legislative Auditor and the State Auditor. Specific services include real estate management; resource recovery; materials management; central mail; communication/IT project development and management; budget systems and operations; payroll; accounting and financial reporting; treasury management; mediation; and program and financial audits. These expenditures represent less than 1% of Fund expenditures.

The Department of Finance develops an annual plan that allocates service costs by agency and fund, and bills each state agency annually. DNR's Office of Management and Budget Services receives this bill for statewide indirect costs and pays it from the Game and Fish Operations account. Statewide Indirect costs are reviewed annually by Federal auditors.



# Dedicated Accounts

2007 Game  
and Fish Fund  
Report

**Dedicated Accounts**

**Deer/Bear Management; Computerized Licensing (231)**

M.S. 97A.075, subd. 1(c) specifies that at least \$1.00 from the sale of each annual deer license and each annual bear license, and \$1.00 from each validated lifetime deer license be used for deer and bear management programs, including a computerized licensing system. The funds generated in this manner are deposited to a Deer/Bear Management Account in the Game and Fish Fund. Fifty cents from each deer license is appropriated for emergency deer feeding and wild cervid health management.

\*Mn Session Laws of 2006, Chapter 281 changed 97A.075 to allow \$1.00 of each Deer License to be deposited into the Deer/Bear Management Account AND \$.50 to be deposited into the Emergency Deer feeding and wild cervid health management. This change was effective July 1, 2007 and will be reported in the fiscal year 2008 Game and Fish Fund Report.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the balance in this account was \$1.271 million including all appropriations. Additional receipts of \$312 thousand were deposited during the year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend annual direct and statutory appropriations and actual expenditures are given below:

<b>Table 42A Direct Appropriation Spending Authority (In Thousands)</b>	
Direct Appropriation (D00/640)	\$ 397
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	<u>220</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u><u>\$ 617</u></u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Deer and Bear Management	\$ 173
Computerized Licensing	13
Canceled to account	<u>431</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 617</u></u>

<b>Table 42B Statutory Spending Authority (In Thousands)</b>	
Fiscal Year 2007 Statutory (Fiscal Year 2007 Beginning Balance) (D01)	\$ 874
Receipts	<u>312</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u><u>\$1,186</u></u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Cervidae Health Management (Statutory)	<u>\$ 197</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 197</u>
Spending Authority Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2008	<u><u>\$ 989</u></u>

Money in the account may only be used for deer and bear management programs, including a computerized licensing system. Examples of deer and bear management expenditures include census and surveys; data management; deer and bear hunting season management; animal management; urban deer projects; and related coordination, personnel and support costs. Examples of expenditures for computerized licensing include operating the electronic licensing system (ELS) and implementing the deer and bear lotteries.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Emergency Deer Feeding and Wild Cervid Health Management Account

In 2002 and 2003, the Legislature broadened the allowable use of the emergency deer feeding appropriation to allow for wild cervid health management including management of chronic wasting disease (CWD). It also required a report on expenditures from this appropriation every two years. Minnesota Statutes Section 97A.075, Subdivision 1 (c) provides:

Fifty cents from each deer license is appropriated for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management. Money appropriated for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management is available until expended. When the unencumbered balance in the appropriation for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management at the end of a fiscal year exceeds \$2,500,000 for the first time, \$750,000 is canceled to the unappropriated balance of the game and fish fund. The commissioner must inform the legislative chairs of the natural resources finance committees every two years on how the money for emergency deer feeding and wild cervidae health management has been spent.

Approximately \$197 thousand was spent from this dedicated fund (see Table 43) for wild cervid health management in fiscal year 2007. An additional \$688 thousand of Game and Fish Funds, General Funds appropriated for cervid management in response to a cattle bovine tuberculosis outbreak, Beltrami Island Funds, Deer Management Funds, and federal wildlife health funds were expended for CWD and TB efforts for a total of \$885 thousand from all funding sources (see Table 44 for a comparison by fund of expenditures).

<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Salaries	\$ 3
Professional/Technical Services with Outside Vendors	174
Equipment	7
Fleet	6
Other Operating Costs	7
Wild Cervid Health Mgmt Fund (231 D01) - Expenditures	<u>\$ 197</u>

### CWD Overview

In 2006, approximately 2,000 hunter-harvested deer were tested for CWD disease statewide and no infection was detected. Continued surveillance for the disease in deer exhibiting clinical sign of illness is ongoing throughout the state.

## Dedicated Accounts

**Table 44**  
**Effort to Manage and Monitor CWD**  
**and TB in White-Tailed Deer**  
**by DNR Funding Source**  
**(In Thousands)**

Fund	Appropriation Name	Amount	% Spent
100	General Fund (100 D00)	\$ 80	9%
100	General Fund – Bovine Tuberculosis (100 D07)	129	15%
200	Beltrami Island Fund	8	1%
230	Game & Fish Fund - Operations and Maintenance	100	11%
231	Emergency Deer Feeding/Wild Cervid Health Management Fund	197	22%
232	Deer Management	1	0%
300	Federal Wildlife Health	<u>370</u>	<u>42%</u>
	Total Expenditures, All Funding Sources	<u>\$ 885</u>	<u>100%</u>

### Bovine Tuberculosis Overview

Since 2005 bovine tuberculosis (TB) has been discovered in seven cattle operations in northwestern Minnesota. The strain is consistent with bovine TB found in cattle in the southwestern U.S. and Mexico. DNR conducted surveillance for the disease in hunter-harvested deer within a 15-mile radius of the infected farms in 2005 and 2006. Two bovine TB-infected deer were discovered in 2005 and five TB-infected deer in 2006. All infected deer have been adult animals, and 70 percent were males. All of these bovine-TB positive deer were taken within five miles of a cluster of four bovine TB-infected cattle operations. Because of these discoveries, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) downgraded the state's bovine TB status from "free" to "modified accredited advanced" in 2006. As a result, cattle producers across the state face mandatory testing of cattle and restrictions on cattle movement. The discovery of two additional bovine TB-infected livestock operations, as well as the increased number of infected wild deer, has put the state at greater risk to drop another level in status to "modified accredited" in 2007. The DNR is committed to assisting the Minnesota Board of Animal Health (BAH) in regaining the state's bovine TB-Free status.

Following the discovery of more infected deer in fall 2006, DNR decided to take more aggressive action to minimize the disease in wild deer. First, recreational feeding of wild deer and elk was banned in a 4,000mi<sup>2</sup> area in northwestern Minnesota, as a preventative measure to minimize disease transmission. Second, a Bovine TB Management Zone was created to focus management efforts based on current knowledge of prevalence and geographic location of the disease in wild deer. DNR contracted with USDA-Wildlife Services for assistance with deer removal within the Bovine TB Management Zone. The primary method of deer removal by USDA in these critical areas was sharp shooting. The goal with this deer removal effort was to reduce the opportunity for deer-to-deer or deer-to-livestock transmission of bovine TB by removing potentially TB-positive deer through a reduction of deer densities in critical areas. The BAH, the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA), and the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association (MDHA) all support this method of deer removal and believed it was immediately necessary to accomplish our goal. Just prior to the start of the deer removal efforts, DNR conducted an aerial survey to assess deer numbers and distribution within the Bovine TB Management Zone and the core area. A population estimate of 923 ± 150 deer was determined for the 140mi<sup>2</sup> core area alone. Also, 29 illegal deer feeding sites on 22 properties were identified during the survey operation and led to enforcement investigations aimed at stopping these illegal activities. Trained DNR staff and veterinary students examined all deer, extracting lymph nodes for further bovine TB testing. A total of 488 deer, nearly 50% of the local deer population, was removed in the core of the Bovine TB Management Zone. Six deer were found infected with the disease, raising the total number of TB-positive deer discovered to-date to 13 individuals. All of these deer were harvested within 5 miles of previously infected cattle operations.



## Dedicated Accounts

The fall 2007 hunting season has been liberalized to assist with deer reduction efforts in critical areas. DNR has defined a special permit area that will encompass the Bovine TB Management Zone, and use special hunts (e.g., early antlerless), permits, and extended seasons to enable hunters to help manage the disease in wild deer. A deer-proof fencing program, currently being managed by DNR, has provided up to \$5,000 worth of fencing materials to help farmers protect their stored agricultural feed from wild deer. To date, 15 fences on 10 farm sites have been erected and an additional 10 farms are scheduled for fencing in 2008. DNR will continue to promote risk minimization of disease transmission between deer and livestock through help from state and federal agencies and key stakeholder groups (e.g., MSCA, MDHA). DNR will continue monitoring for the disease through sampling of hunter-harvested deer. DNR plans to conduct hunter-harvested surveillance within the larger bovine TB surveillance zone until there are two consecutive years of no positives.

### Deer Management Account (232)

M.S. 97A.075, subd. 1(b) specifies that at least \$2.00 from the sale of each annual deer license and \$2.00 from each validated lifetime deer license be used for deer habitat improvement or deer management programs. The funds generated in this manner are deposited to a Deer Habitat Improvement Account in the Game and Fish Fund.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$603 thousand. Additional receipts of \$1.253 million were deposited during the year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend the annual direct appropriation and actual expenditures are given below:

Direct Appropriation	\$ 1,411
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	126
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u>\$ 1,537</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Habitat Improvement	\$ 936
Deer Management	486
Canceled to account	115
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,537</u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for deer habitat improvement or deer management programs.

Specific examples of deer habitat improvement expenditures include habitat evaluation, data management, private and public land food plot development, forest habitat maintenance, prescribed burns, forest opening development and related coordination, personnel and support costs.

Examples of deer management expenditures include census and surveys, season management, animal management population research and evaluation activities, and related coordination, personnel and support costs.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Account (233)

The creation of the Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Account and how money in the fund can be used is described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 2. The annual fee for the migratory waterfowl stamp, currently \$7.50, is found in M.S. 97A.475, subd. 5.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$354 thousand. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of migratory waterfowl stamps are deposited to the account, a total of \$697 thousand during the fiscal year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend the annual direct appropriation and actual expenditures are given below:

<b>Table 46</b>	
<b>Spending Authority</b>	
<b>(In Thousands)</b>	
Direct Appropriation	\$ 851
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	<u>195</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u><u>\$ 1,046</u></u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Wetland Development	\$ 511
Waterfowl Management	124
Habitat Development, Restoration, Maintenance	261
Land Acquisition	9
Canceled to account	<u>141</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 1,046</u></u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

- 1) Development of wetlands and lakes in the state and designated waterfowl management lakes for maximum migratory waterfowl production including habitat evaluation, the construction of dikes, water control structures and impoundments, nest cover, rough fish barriers, acquisition of sites and facilities necessary for development and management of existing migratory waterfowl habitat and the designation of waters under section 97A.101; in addition to the expenditure items listed above, this category includes costs for related coordination and operational support;
- 2) Management of migratory waterfowl; examples of migratory waterfowl management expenditures include public information, census and surveys, special hunt management, and related coordination and operational support;
- 3) Development, restoration, maintenance, or preservation of migratory waterfowl habitat; examples of expenditures in this category include wetland maintenance, wetland restoration, food plot development, planting nesting cover, prescribed burns, and related coordination and operational support;
- 4) Acquisition of and access to structure sites; and
- 5) Promotion of waterfowl habitat development and maintenance, including promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for waterfowl habitat.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Trout and Salmon Management Account (234)

The creation of the Trout and Salmon Management Account and how money in the fund can be used is described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 3. The annual fee for the trout and salmon stamp, currently \$10.00, is found in M.S. 97A.475, subd. 10.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$214 thousand. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of trout and salmon stamps are deposited to the account, a total of \$852 thousand during the fiscal year. Due to expenditures being more than revenue deposits during the months of January, February and March, \$113 thousand was canceled back to the account. This should enable the account to cash flow in future years.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend and actual expenditures are given below:

Direct Appropriation	\$ 880
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	<u>79</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u>\$ 959</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Habitat Improvement	\$ 262
Fish culture and stocking	453
Easement acquisition and identification	50
Lake Superior	81
Canceled to account	<u>113</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 959</u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

- 1) The development, restoration, maintenance and preservation of trout streams and lakes; specific examples of habitat improvement expenditures include salaries of part-time stream improvement personnel, the purchase of rock and construction materials for stabilization of stream banks, installation of stream improvement structures, fleet costs for trucks and heavy equipment, fish barrier maintenance costs, and maintenance costs for completed habitat improvement projects;
- 2) Rearing of trout and salmon and stocking of trout and salmon in streams and lakes and Lake Superior; specific examples of culture and stocking expenditures include salaries for part-time hatchery personnel, upkeep and utility costs for hatchery buildings, fish food, fleet costs for hatchery vehicles, purchase and repair of fishing rearing equipment, supplies and chemicals for disease prevention and treatment, and contaminant monitoring;
- 3) Acquisition of easements and fee title along trout waters;
- 4) Identifying easement and fee title areas along trout waters; examples include posting signs on easement boundaries, using GPS to obtain fixed locations at each easement boundary, and producing maps that show trout stream easement locations; and
- 5) Research and special management projects on Lake Superior and the anadromous portions of its tributaries.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Pheasant Habitat Improvement Account (235)

The creation of the Pheasant Habitat Improvement Account and how money can be used is described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 4. The annual fee for the Pheasant Stamp, currently \$7.50, is found in M.S. 97A.475, subd. 5.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$739 thousand. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of pheasant stamps are deposited to the account, a total of \$892 thousand during the fiscal year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend and actual expenditures are given below:

Direct Appropriation	\$ 890
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	<u>324</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u><u>\$ 1,214</u></u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Habitat Development, Restoration, Maintenance	\$ 399
Re-imburement for Habitat Development	332
Promotion and Evaluation	123
Acquisition	325
Canceled to account	<u>35</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 1,214</u></u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

- 1) Development, restoration and maintenance of suitable habitat for ring-necked pheasants on public and private land including the establishment of nesting cover, winter cover, and reliable food sources; examples include private land technical assistance, noxious weed control, food plot development, woody cover development, and grassland development;
- 2) Reimbursement of landowners for setting aside lands for pheasant habitat;
- 3) Reimbursement of expenditures to provide pheasant habitat on public and private land; examples include reimbursement for food plots, woody cover development, grassland development and wetland restoration projects;
- 4) The promotion of pheasant habitat development and maintenance, including promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for pheasant habitat; examples include public information for roadside and farmland programs and federal Conservation Reserve Program evaluation; and
- 5) Acquisition of lands suitable for pheasant habitat management and public hunting.

Money in the account may not be used for:

- 1) Costs unless they are directly related to a specific parcel of land under clause (1), (3), or (5) [referring to five clauses listed above or to specific promotional or evaluative activities under clause (4)]; or
- 2) Any personnel costs, except that prior to July 1, 2009, personnel may be hired to provide technical and promotional assistance for private landowners to implement conservation provisions of state and federal programs.

Dedicated Accounts

**Wild Rice Management Account (236)**

The establishment of the Wild Rice Management Account and the use of funds in the account are described in M.S. 84.0911.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$37 thousand. Additional receipts of \$38 thousand were deposited during the year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** This account has been established with statutory authority to spend all available receipts.

Direct Appropriation	\$ -
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	37
Receipts	<u>38</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u>\$ 75</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Acquisition	\$ 41
Spending Authority Carried Forward	<u>34</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 75</u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

Management of designated public waters to improve natural wild rice production.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Wildlife Acquisition Account (237)

The Wildlife Acquisition Account is established as an account in the Game and Fish Fund under M.S. 97A.071, subd 1. The small game surcharge is established under M.S. 97A.475, subd. 4 and is currently \$6.50.

**Resources.** The beginning balance in this account was \$30 thousand and additional receipts of \$1.939 million were deposited during the fiscal year.

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend and actual expenditures are given below:

The FY07 appropriation of \$3.013 million was not supported by sufficient revenue in FY 07. Therefore, spending plans were reduced by \$1.218 million to \$1.895 million.

Direct Appropriation	\$ 3,013
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	195
Spending Plan Reduction	<u>(1,218)</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u>\$ 1,990</u>
 <b>Expenditures</b>	
Acquisition	\$ 1,149
Development including maintenance	780
North American Waterfowl Plan	15
Canceled to account	<u>46</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,990</u>

By statute, of the money available and annually appropriated:

- 1) At least 50 percent must be used for land costs; land cost is defined as the purchase price of land acquired by the commissioner;
- 2) The remainder may only be used for other land acquisition costs, development and maintenance of wildlife lands: examples of other land acquisition costs include acquisition-related fees, real estate taxes and assessments paid at the time of acquisition, salaries for acquisition coordination, and other acquisition-related personnel and support costs. Examples of development and maintenance include habitat and user facility development; enhancement and maintenance of farmland, forest, grassland and wetland habitats; development and maintenance of access sites; noxious weed control; prescribed burns; and the costs of fleet, supplies and salaries for full-time and seasonal wildlife personnel engaged in directly-related activities; and
- 3) Activities described in M.S. 97A.071, subd 3: developing, preserving, restoring and maintaining waterfowl breeding grounds in Canada under agreement or contract with any nonprofit organization dedicated to the construction, maintenance, and repair of projects that are acceptable to the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the land and water affected by the projects. The commissioner may execute agreements and contracts if the commissioner determines that the use of the funds will benefit the migration of waterfowl into the state.

## Dedicated Accounts

### Wild Turkey Management Account (238)

Establishment of the Wild Turkey Management Account and the use of funds in the account are described in M.S. 97A.075, subd. 5. The annual fee for the wild turkey stamp is set in M.S. 97A.475, subd.5, and is currently \$5.00.

**Resources.** At the beginning of the fiscal year the available balance in this account was \$202 thousand. Ninety percent of the proceeds from the sale of wild turkey stamps are deposited to the account, a total of \$132 thousand during the fiscal year. An additional \$8 thousand was transferred in from the Game and Fish Fund (230).

**Appropriation and Expenditures.** The authority to spend and actual expenditures are given below:

Direct Appropriation	\$ 134
Transfer in from Game and Fish Fund (230)	8
Spending authority carried forward from 2006	<u>19</u>
Total Fiscal Year 2007 Spending Authority	<u><u>\$ 161</u></u>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Habitat Development, Restoration, Maintenance	\$ 12
Acquisition	34
Re-imbusement for Habitat Improvement	1
Trapping and Translocation	21
Promotion, Surveys and Research	64
Cancelled to Account	<u>29</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$ 161</u></u>

By statute, money in the account may only be used for:

- 1) Development, restoration and maintenance of suitable habitat for wild turkeys on public and private land including forest stand improvement and establishment of nesting cover, winter roost area, and reliable food sources; examples include prairie and grassland management and forest stand improvements.
- 2) Acquisitions of, or easements on, critical wild turkey habitat; examples include land acquisition and related costs.
- 3) Reimbursement of expenditures to provide wild turkey habitat on public and private land; examples include food plots on private land.
- 4) Trapping and translocation of wild turkeys; examples include wild turkey capture and release; and
- 5) Promotion of turkey habitat development and maintenance, population surveys and monitoring, and research. examples include population trend monitoring.

Money in the account may not be used for:

- 1) Costs unless they are directly related to a specific parcel of land under clause (1) to (3) [clauses listed above], a specific trap and transplant project under clause (4), or to specific promotional or evaluative activities under clause (5); or
- 2) Any permanent personnel costs.

**Dedicated Accounts**

**Heritage Enhancement Account (239)**

**M.S. 297A.94, para (e)**

Revenue in the Heritage Enhancement Account comes from the in-lieu-of-sales tax on the sale of lottery tickets. Of total in-lieu-of-sales tax receipts, 72.43% are currently deposited to accounts spent for environmental and natural resource purposes, 50% of which is directed to the Heritage Enhancement Account for spending on activities that improve, enhance or protect fish and wildlife resources, including conservation, restoration, and the enhancement of land, water and other natural resources.

The percentage of in-lieu-of-sales tax receipts deposited to accounts for environmental and natural resource spending purposes has statutorily decreased during the past five years. The tables below show the history of receipts deposited and expenditures from the Heritage Enhancement Account for the last five fiscal years.

**Table 52  
Lottery Receipts in-Lieu-of Sales Tax  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Gross Lottery Receipts in-lieu-of Sales Tax	22,868	25,150	26,521	29,231	27,470
Percent distributed to environmental and natural resources accounts	<u>87.00%</u>	<u>72.43%</u>	<u>72.43%</u>	<u>72.43%</u>	<u>72.43%</u>
Subtotal	\$19,895	\$18,216	\$19,209	\$21,172	\$19,896
Percent deposited to Heritage Enhancement Account	<u>50%</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>50%</u>
Lottery in-lieu receipts to Heritage Enhancement Account	<u>\$9,948</u>	<u>\$9,108</u>	<u>\$9,605</u>	<u>\$10,586</u>	<u>\$9,948</u>

**Table 53  
Heritage Enhancement Account Expenditures  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

<u>Division</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Forestry	\$ 223	\$ 159	\$ 316	\$ 250	\$ 221
Fisheries	6,298	3,690	4,346	3,992	4,333
Wildlife	3,465	1,933	3,328	2,296	4,083
Ecological Services	1,703	777	1,689	1,226	1,869
Enforcement	<u>1,352</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>1,724</u>	<u>1,122</u>	<u>1,202</u>
Total Heritage Expenditures	<u>\$ 13,041</u>	<u>\$ 7,111</u>	<u>\$ 11,403</u>	<u>\$ 8,886</u>	<u>\$ 11,708</u>



**Dedicated Accounts**

**Lifetime Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund (23A)  
M.S. 97A.4742, subd 1**

The DNR deposits receipts from the sale of lifetime fishing, hunting, small game, archery deer and sports licenses to the Lifetime Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund. Interest and investment earnings on fund resources are also credited to this account. Each year the DNR transfers from the Lifetime Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund the amount that otherwise would have been collected and deposited from the sale of annual hunting and angling licenses. The DNR does not spend on game and fish programs from the trust fund.

The Table 54 shows lifetime license sales by fiscal year and license category since lifetime licenses were first offered in fiscal year 2001.

**Table 54  
Lifetime License Sales  
Since Inception, Fiscal Years  
(Licenses Sold)**

<b>Lifetime License Category</b>	<b>2001 Thru 2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>All Years</b>
Angling	1,639	615	605	591	732	4,182
Small game	117	49	52	43	38	299
Firearm deer	846	302	342	377	428	2,295
Individual sports	1,807	666	703	733	796	4,705
Non-resident angling	7	6	3	2	5	23
Archery	<u>53</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>309</u>
Total License Sales	<u><u>4,469</u></u>	<u><u>1,697</u></u>	<u><u>1,759</u></u>	<u><u>1,820</u></u>	<u><u>2,068</u></u>	<u><u>11,813</u></u>

M.S. Chapter 97A.4742, subdivision 2, states in part: "Money in the Lifetime Fish And Wildlife Trust Fund shall be invested by the State Board of Investment (SB) to secure the maximum return consistent with the maintenance of the perpetuity of the fund. The income received and accruing from investments of the fund shall be deposited in the lifetime fish and wildlife trust fund". On June 30, 2007 the balance of the trust fund was \$4.179 million. SBI invests cash from the trust fund in stocks and bonds outside the state treasury. Since SBI began investing for the fund, trust fund investments have increased in value.

**Dedicated Accounts**

**Table 55  
Annual Activity in Lifetime License Trust Fund  
(In Thousands)**

	<b>2001 thru 2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>All Years</b>
Lifetime license receipts	\$ 1,826	\$ 680	\$ 710	\$ 748	\$ 821	\$ 4,785
Less: transfer to Game and Fish Operations Accounts	(94)	(90)	(120)	(148)	(178)	(630)
Interest Income Credited to the Trust Fund	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>24</u>
Net Annual Increase to Trust Fund	<u>\$ 1,746</u>	<u>\$ 591</u>	<u>\$ 592</u>	<u>\$ 604</u>	<u>\$ 646</u>	<u>\$ 4,179</u>

A lifetime license holder receives a current year license by validating the use of the lifetime license. Validation enables the DNR to know which license holders have activated the use of their lifetime license for the current hunting or angling season. A lifetime license holder can validate at a sales agent location or the License Center in St. Paul. License validation is a non-monetary transaction.

During fiscal year 2007, a total of 8,008 lifetime license holders validated the use of their license. Based on the number of validations the DNR calculates the amount to transfer to Game and Fish Operations and the dedicated accounts. Table 56 below shows the amount transferred from the Lifetime License Trust Fund in the last five fiscal years.

**Table 56  
Annual Transfer from Lifetime License Trust Fund  
Last Five Fiscal Years  
(In Thousands)**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Transfer to Game and Fish Operations (230)	\$ 54	\$ 81	\$ 104	\$ 128	\$ 154
Transfer to Deer / Bear Management (231)	1	1	1	1	2
Transfer to Deer Habitat Improvement (232)	1	2	2	3	3
Transfer to Wildlife Acquisition (237)	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>
Total Annual Transfer	<u>\$ 60</u>	<u>\$ 90</u>	<u>\$ 120</u>	<u>\$ 148</u>	<u>\$ 178</u>

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Game and Fish Fund Statement**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Game and Fish Fund Allocation to Hunting and Fishing Activities**