

1999 NATURAL RESOURCES LEGISLATION

A

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS

OF THE

1999 REGULAR SESSION

OF THE

EIGHTY-FIRST MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEGISLATIVE UNIT

AUGUST, 1999

1999 Department of Natural Resources Legislative Summary

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GENERAL NATURAL RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

CH249 TECHNICAL BILL - REVISORS

HF(2441)

SF2224

An act relating to legislative enactments; correcting technical errors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 97A.075, subd. 1; 124D.135, subd. 3, as amended; 124D.54, subd. 1, as amended; 256.476, subd. 8, as amended; 322B.115, subd. 4; SF 626, section 44; SF 2221, article 1, section 2, subd. 4; section 7, subd. 6; section 8, subd. 3; section 12, subd. 1; section 13, subd. 1; section 18; SF 2226, section 5, subd. 4; section 6; HF 1825, section 12; HF 2390, article 1, section 2, subds. 2 and 4; section 4, subd. 4; section 17, subd. 1; article 2, section 81; HF 2420, article 5, section 18; article 6, section 2; proposing coding in Minnesota Statutes 1998, chapter 126C.

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

GENERAL RULES

CH250 OMNIBUS STATE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HF878

SF(1464) Removes the ability for state agencies to impose a new fee or increase existing fees by rule as of July 1, 2001. Any fee creation or increase must be approved by the Legislature. Fee is defined as "any charge for goods, services, regulation, or licensure." Admission charges for public facilities are included. It does not include charges between state agencies, or state colleges or university systems. Creates Minn. Stat. sec. 16A.1283; repeals Minn. Stat. sec. 16A.1285, subs. 4,5.

Signed by Governor: May 25, 1999

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

CH223 OMNIBUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HF2390

SF(2227) Section 42 subd.2 removes DNR Commissioner from Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB).

Signed by Governor: May 25, 1999

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

CH193 LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AGENCY RULE AMENDMENTS BILL

HF (879)

SF 1636 Creates Minn. Stat. §14.091 which authorizes cities and counties to petition agencies for amendment or repeal of all or part of rule.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999; expires July 31, 2001

CH129 GOVERNOR AUTHORIZED TO VETO AGENCY RULES BILL

HF1905

SF(1993) Authorizes Governor to veto all or a severable portion of a rule within fourteen days of receiving new rule from the Secretary of State. Does not apply to DNR emergency game and fish or experimental and special water rules.

Signed by Governor: May 6, 1999

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 1999; expires July 31, 2001

ENFORCEMENT

CH22 COLLECTOR WATERCRAFT LICENSING BILL

HF137

SF(463)

Exempts collector watercraft from certain watercraft license display requirements - amends sec. 86B.401.

Signed by Governor: March 26, 1999

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

FISH AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES

CH92 HARMFUL EXOTIC SPECIES PROVISIONS MODIFICATIONS BILL

HF(1248)

SF1528 Modifies certain provisions relating to harmful exotic species;

EFFECTIVE: April 25, 1999

CH57 ST. LOUIS RIVER ESTUARY FISHING GUIDE LICENSE BILL

HF(1109)

SF803 Requires those offering fishing guide services for pay on Minnesota side of St. Louis estuary to purchase a guide license.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

**RESOLUTION 1 US/CANADIAN TRADE AGREEMENT VIOLATIONS AFFECTING
MINNESOTA TOURISM BILL**

HF544

SF(638) Urges the office of U.S. Trade Representative to forcefully and promptly address and resolve violations of international trade agreements and discriminatory practices by the Province of Ontario and Canadian officials that are injuring Minnesota border lakes tourism businesses. There are particular concerns over discriminatory fishing rules by Ontario regarding fishing guides.

Signed by Governor: March 26, 1999

WILDLIFE

CH81 SWAN LAKE WATERFOWL REFUGE DESIGNATION BILL

HF(1404)

SF972 Maintains a waterfowl refuge that is essential to migratory waterfowl using Swan Lake; provides access by permit to private property during waterfowl season upon request from a private landowner within a migratory waterfowl refuge.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

FORESTRY

RESOLUTION 3 BWCA AND SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST BILL

HF426

SF(534) A resolution memorializing the President and Congress to enact laws that will expedite the exchange of intermingled state and federal lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Superior National Forest to consolidate land ownership for the purpose of enabling each government to properly discharge its respective management duties.

Signed by the Governor: April 23, 1999.

LANDS AND MINERALS

CH243 OMNIBUS TAX BILL

HF2420

SF(1276) Includes bonding for conservation easements.

Signed by Governor: May 25, 1999

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

CH180 STATE LEASED LAKESHORE LOTS EXCHANGE BILL

HF(1430)

SF1572 Modifies provisions for the exchange or sale of lease lakeshore lots.
Amend Laws 1998, CH389, Art. 16.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

**CH161 TAX-FORFEITED AND SURPLUS LAND CONVEYANCES SALES
AND EXCHANGES BILL**

HF(502)

SF626

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

PARKS

**CH157 STATE PARK BOUNDARIES; ROCK COUNTY SURPLUS STATE
LAND SALE BILL**

HF(1301)

SF1449 Adds 3946 acres to park boundaries.
Dedicates Gooseberry Falls Visitor Center for Joe Alexander.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

*See Also SF2226, Sec.197

TRAILS AND WATERWAYS

CH238 OMNIBUS TRANSPORTATION BILL

HF2387

SF(2217)

Section 68 extends the 1 percent transfer of the unfunded gas tax attributed to snowmobile use into the natural resources fund for snowmobile purposes for one year and then return to .75 of a percent thereafter. Originally the unfunded gas tax was set at .75 of a percent and increased to one percent for fiscal years 98 and 99 and then sunsetted.

Signed By Governor: May 25, 1999

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

CH65 STEARNS, BENTON AND SHERBURNE COUNTIES REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS BILL

HF(841)

SF881

Directs three counties to form a regional parks and trails coordination board under a joint powers agreement.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999

CH4 MODIFYING SNOWMOBILE STUD RESTRICTIONS BILL

HF6

SF(40)

Bans studded snowmobiles on public paved trails.
Repeals ban on studs.

Signed By Governor: March 4, 1999

EFFECTIVE: March 5, 1999

WATERS

CH240 OMNIBUS BONDING BILL

HF2205

SF(2097) Flood damage reduction

\$1,698,000 State Share

\$17,270,000 Local Share

Signed By Governor: May 25, 1999

EFFECTIVE: May 26, 1999

CH198 MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD HYDROELECTRIC BILL

HF(1286)

SF1976

Power distribution and sale. A bill for an act relating to municipal electric power; defining city within the meaning of the act; authorizing the Minneapolis park and recreation board to engage in the local distribution and sale of hydroelectric power to protect the natural, historical, ecological, and aesthetic value of the Mississippi river at the Falls of St. Anthony; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 453.52, subdivision 3.

EFFECTIVE: Sec. 1 May 25, 1999; Sec. 2 Local Approval

CH153 WELLS/BORINGS CONTRACTOR REGULATION BILL

HF(2021)

SF1539

Expands the Department's advisory council on wells and borings; amends other parts of wells/borings statute.

EFFECTIVE: Sec. 1-12, August 1, 1999; Sec. 13 & 14, August 1, 2000

CH56 SCOTT COUNTY BLUE LAKE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PERMIT APPROVAL BILL

HF(1403)

SF1173

Approves the granting of a permit for the consumptive use of groundwater pursuant to §103G.265.

EFFECTIVE: April 16, 1999

CH231 OMNIBUS ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

EFFECTIVE: Various Dates

* See Also SF2224, Sec. 9-10

ENFORCEMENT

Boat and Water Safety Grants

C \$1,082,000 the first year and \$1,082,000 the second year are from the water recreation account in the natural resources fund for grants to counties for boat and water safety. \$100,000 each year is from the solid waste fund for solid waste enforcement activities under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.073.

Snowmobile Enforcement Grants

C \$400,000 each year from the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund is for grants to local law enforcement agencies for snowmobile enforcement activities above and beyond current levels of local law enforcement activities.

800 MHZ Conversion

C \$302,000 the first year is for conversion to the Minnesota state patrol's 800 MHZ radio system in the nine-county metropolitan area.

Overtime Distribution

C Overtime shall be distributed to conservation officers at historical levels. If funding for enforcement is reduced because of an unallotment, the overtime bank may be reduced in proportion to reductions made in other areas of the budget.

OHV Enforcement Activities

C \$40,000 the first year and \$40,000 the second year are from the natural resources fund for enforcement activities relating to the Iron Range off-highway vehicle recreation area. Of the amount appropriated, \$40,000 is from the all-terrain vehicle account, \$32,000 is from the off-road vehicle account, and \$8,000 is from the off-highway motorcycle account.

Enforcement Community Liaison Officers

C \$130,000 the first year and \$130,000 the second year are to continue the enforcement community liaison officers program.

Watercraft Refund

C If Minnesota Statutes, section 86B.415, subdivision 7a, is repealed, a refund of the \$50 surcharge shall be issued by the commissioner to any person who demonstrates having paid the fee.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Field Operations Costs

C \$1,565,000 the first year and \$1,565,000 the second year are for field operation costs associated

with the division of wildlife and fish. Eighty-five percent of this appropriation must be used for regional field operations. The commissioner must provide a report by February 1, 2000, to the legislative finance committees on natural resources on how and where the money for regional field operations has been spent.

Ecological Services

Nongame Wildlife Management

C \$965,000 the first year and \$985,000 the second year are from the nongame wildlife management account in the natural resources fund for the purpose of nongame wildlife management. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel but is available the second year.

Minnesota/Mississippi Birding Trails

C \$100,000 the first year is for grants for the joint development with the Minnesota office of the National Audubon Society to be split equally between the Minnesota river valley birding trail and a Mississippi river valley birding trail. The Mississippi river parkway commission also shall assist with the Mississippi river valley birding trail. The grants shall be available to support initial planning and design for the trails. A work plan for each trail must be approved by the department of natural resources. The appropriation is available for the biennium ending June 30, 2001.

Fisheries

Trout and Salmon Management

C \$658,000 the first year and \$662,000 the second year are from the trout and salmon management account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 3.

Water Quality Assessment

C \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are for water monitoring activities, including integrated monitoring using biology, chemistry, hydrology, and habitat assessment for water quality assessment.

Walleye Stocking

C \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for expansion of the walleye stocking program.

Wildlife

Population Surveys

C \$316,000 the first year and \$322,000 the second year are for resource population surveys in the 1837 treaty area. Of this amount, \$108,000 the first year and \$109,000 the second year are from the game and fish fund.

RIM

C \$1,391,000 the first year and \$1,420,000 the second year are for the reinvest in Minnesota programs of game and fish, critical habitat, and wetlands established under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.95, subdivision 2. Any unencumbered balance for the first year does not cancel but is available for use the second year.

Wildlife Acquisition

C \$1,401,000 the first year and \$1,409,000 the second year are from the wildlife acquisition account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.071, subdivision 2a.

Deer Habitat Improvement

C \$1,203,000 the first year and \$1,222,000 the second year are from the deer habitat improvement account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

Deer and Bear

C \$147,000 the first year and \$147,000 the second year are from the deer and bear management account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

Waterfowl Habitat

C \$682,000 the first year and \$691,000 the second year are from the waterfowl habitat improvement account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 2.

Pheasant Habitat

C \$546,000 the first year and \$546,000 the second year are from the pheasant habitat improvement account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 4. In addition to the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 4, this appropriation may be used for pheasant restocking efforts.

Turkey Management

C \$84,000 the first year and \$85,000 the second year are from the wild turkey management account for only the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075, subdivision 5.

Critical Habitat License Plate

C \$25,000 the first year is to publicize the critical habitat license plate match program and \$25,000 the second year is to publicize the tax donation checkoff to the nongame wildlife program.

Reduction & Prevention of Property Damage

C \$299,000 the first year and \$303,000 the second year are from the game and fish fund for activities relating to reduction and prevention of property damage by wildlife. \$50,000 each year is for emergency damage abatement materials.

Lifetime Licenses

C \$25,000 is for an independent actuarial study of the fee structure for lifetime hunting and fishing licenses.

FORESTRY

Community Forest Improvement

C \$225,000 the first year is for grants to local community forest ecosystem health programs. The appropriation is available until June 30, 2001. The commissioner of natural resources shall allocate individual grants of up to \$25,000 to local communities that match the grants with nonstate money to undertake projects that improve the health of forest ecosystems, including

insect and disease suppression programs, community-based forest health education programs, and other arboricultural treatments.

- C \$61,000 the first year and \$62,000 the second year are for the focus on community forests program, to provide communities with natural resources technical assistance.

Fire Fighting

- C \$3,599,000 the first year and \$3,688,000 the second year are for the presuppression and suppression costs of emergency fire fighting. If the appropriation for either year is insufficient to cover all costs of suppression, the amount necessary to pay for emergency firefighting expenses during the biennium is appropriated from the general fund. If money is spent under the appropriation in the preceding sentence, the commissioner of natural resources shall, by 15 days after the end of the following quarter, report on how the money was spent to the chairs of the house of representatives ways and means committee, the environment and agriculture budget division of the senate environment and natural resources committee, and the house of representatives environment and natural resources finance committee. The appropriations may not be transferred.

Minnesota Conservation Corps:

- C The following language was passed: *the commissioner may charge a fee for any service performed by the Minnesota conservation corps. Fees generated shall be deposited in a special revenue fund and appropriated to the commissioner for Minnesota conservation corps projects and administration.* \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are an increase in the base appropriation for the Minnesota conservation corps program activities.

Sustainable Forest Resources Act (SFRA)

- C \$500,000 each year is for the activities of the forest resources council. This is a one-time appropriation.

White Pine

- C \$722,000 the first year and \$724,000 the second year are for programs and practices on state, county, and private lands to regenerate and protect Minnesota's white pine. Up to \$280,000 of the appropriation in each year may be used by the commissioner to provide 50 percent matching funds to implement cultural practices for white pine management on nonindustrial, private forest lands at rates specified in the Minnesota stewardship incentives program manual. Up to \$150,000 of the appropriation in each year may be used by the commissioner to provide funds to implement cultural practices for white pine management on county-administered lands through grant agreements with individual counties, with priorities for areas that experienced wind damage in July 1995. \$40,000 each year is for a study of the natural regeneration process of white pine. The remainder of the funds in each fiscal year will be available to the commissioner for white pine regeneration and protection on department-administered lands. The commissioner may contract with and make grants to nonprofit agencies to carry out the purposes, plans, and programs of the office of youth programs, Minnesota conservation corps.

Consolidated Conservation (Con-Con) Lands

- C The following language was adopted: *the commissioner of natural resources' order of January 3,*

1999, designating certain lands as wildlife management areas is rescinded.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV)

- C Numerous rules related to OHV use were amended by the legislature. Contact Steve Simmer for summary sheet of implications.

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 1999.

LANDS AND MINERALS

Iron Ore Cooperative Research

- C \$312,000 the first year and \$313,000 the second year are for iron ore cooperative research, of which \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the second year are available only as matched by \$1 of non-state money for each \$1 of state money. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year.

Mineral Diversification

- C \$378,000 the first year and \$379,000 the second year are for mineral diversification. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year.

Minerals Cooperative Research

- C \$101,000 the first year and \$101,000 the second year are for minerals cooperative environmental research, of which \$50,500 the first year and \$50,500 the second year are available only as matched by \$1 of non-state money for each \$1 of state money. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

Technical Assistance

- C \$429,000 the first year and \$432,000 the second year are for the community assistance program to provide for technical assistance and regional resource enhancement grants.

Natural Areas and Greenways Grants

- C \$344,000 the first year and \$348,000 the second year are for technical assistance and grants to assist local government units and organizations in the metropolitan area to acquire and develop natural areas and greenways.

Southeast Asian Environmental Education Program

- C \$50,000 each year is to maintain the state parks Southeast Asian environmental education program.

Information Technology

- C \$700,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for information technology projects.

Asset Preservation

- C \$2,500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for statewide asset preservation and repair.

ELS

- C Electronic licensing under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.027, subdivision 15, other than by telephone or Internet transaction, may not be implemented until March 1, 2000. The commissioner shall review and analyze other types of licensing systems and report to the house and senate environmental finance committees by January 15, 2000.

PARKS

State Park Development Projects

- C \$634,000 the first year and \$636,000 the second year are from the water recreation account in the natural resources fund for state park development projects. If the appropriation in either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

Met Council Grant - Regional Parks and Trails

- C \$4,500,000 the first year and \$4,500,000 the second year are for payment of a grant to the metropolitan council for metropolitan area regional parks and trails maintenance and operation. \$1,500,000 each year is a one-time appropriation.

Interstate Park

- C \$50,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of Taylors Falls for fire and rescue operations in support of Interstate park.

Fort Snelling Lease

- C Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, effective the day following final enactment, the commissioner of natural resources may enter into a 30-year lease with the Minneapolis park and recreation board for the golf course and polo grounds at Fort Snelling. The land to be leased shall be used for recreation purposes in the development of athletic fields connected with the property. The commissioner of natural resources is not obligated to make improvements on the leased property.

TRAILS AND WATERWAYS

Snowmobile Grants-In-Aid

- C \$4,649,000 the first year and \$4,649,000 the second year are from the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund for snowmobile grants-in-aid.

Safe Harbor Program

- C \$256,000 the first year and \$257,000 the second year are from the water recreation account in the natural resources fund for a safe harbor program on Lake Superior. Any unencumbered balance at the end of the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year.

OHV Facility Expansion

- C \$500,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are from the natural resources fund for expansion of off-highway vehicle facilities. Of these amounts, \$200,000 the first year and \$400,000 the second year are from the all-terrain vehicle account, \$75,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are from the off-highway motorcycle account, and \$225,000 the first year and \$450,000 the second year are from the off-road vehicle account in the natural resources fund. This appropriation is available until expended.

Plan, Acquire, Develop, and Operate OHV Area

- C \$1,500,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are from the natural resources fund to plan, acquire, develop, and operate the Iron Range off-highway vehicle recreation area. The first year appropriation is one-time and available until expended. Of the amount appropriated the first year, \$750,000 is from the all-terrain vehicle account, \$600,000 is from the off-road vehicle account, and \$150,000 is from the off-highway motorcycle account. Of the amount appropriated in the second year, \$37,500 is from the all-terrain vehicle account, \$30,000 is from the off-road account, and \$7,500 is from the off-highway motorcycle account. The appropriations are available until expended.

Gitchi-Gami Trail

- C \$100,000 the first year is for the planning, development, and construction of the Gitchi-Gami trail on the north shore of Lake Superior. The trail must be designed primarily for hiking and bicycling and must connect communities, state parks, and other points of interest along the north shore.

Washington County Trail

- C \$175,000 is for a grant to the Ramsey County board of commissioners and the Washington County board of commissioners to cooperatively develop a master plan, with the cooperation and assistance of the Minnesota parks and trails council, for a trail around Silver Lake, a White Bear Lake to Stillwater regional trail, a trail and route around White Bear Lake and trail connections with the Gateway trail and other state or regional trails within the counties. The master plan must be developed with the cities of North St. Paul, Maplewood, Oakdale, Birchwood, Dellwood, Mahtomedi, and White Bear Lake, White Bear township, and the departments of natural resources and transportation. This is a one-time appropriation.

Nonpaved Alternate Trail

- C \$500,000 the first year is for development of nonpaved alternate trails that are adjacent to the Heartland and Paul Bunyan state trails.

Multi-Use Trail

- C \$50,000 is for planning and archaeological costs of a multi-use trail connecting the Douglas trail in Rochester with Chester Woods county park and the cities of Eyota and Dover.

Snowmobile Trail Connection

- C \$200,000 the first year is to construct a snowmobile trail connecting the Munger state trail at Hermantown to the North Shore state trail in Duluth.

Snowmobile Trail Repair

- C The amount raised from the sale of metal traction device stickers under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.8715, prior to June 30, 1999, is appropriated in fiscal year 1999 for the repair of paved public trails damaged by snowmobiles. This appropriation is available until spent.

Retaining Interest Earnings Recommendations

- C By January 15, 2001, the commissioner shall make recommendations to the governor and legislature on retaining the interest earnings in accounts within the natural resources fund.

Trout Brook Corridor

- C \$900,000 is to the city of St. Paul for the acquisition of the portion of the Trout Brook Corridor

located between Maryland Avenue, I-35E, Cayuga Street, and Agate Street. The lands shall

be acquired for the reestablishment of natural habitat, as well as passive recreational and environmental educational opportunities. This is a one-time appropriation.

WATERS

Mississippi Headwaters Board

C \$170,000 the first year and \$170,000 the second year are for a grant to the Mississippi headwaters board for up to 50 percent of the cost of implementing the comprehensive plan for the upper Mississippi within areas under its jurisdiction.

Leech Land Band Payment

C \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the second year are for payment to the Leech Lake Band of Chippewa Indians to implement its portion of the comprehensive plan for the upper Mississippi.

Water Monitoring Activities

C \$502,000 the first year and \$503,000 the second year are for water monitoring activities, including gauging of priority lakes and watersheds, dissemination of information, replacement of equipment, and installation of observation wells, groundwater sensitivity maps, and documentation.

Lewis and Clark Joint Powers Board

C \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year are for a grant to the joint powers board established under Minnesota Statutes, section 471.59, for the Lewis and Clark rural water system.

Red River Basin Grants

C \$1,950,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for grants to watershed districts located within the Red river basin for flood damage reduction projects and activities associated with the implementation of the mediation agreement, including comprehensive watershed plans, agency interdisciplinary teams for each watershed in the Red river valley, and a basin information repository, including data on flood flows and water supply.

Ring Dikes

C \$468,000 the first year is for the construction of ring dikes under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.161. The ring dikes may be publicly or privately owned. This is a one-time appropriation.

Stream Protection

C \$1,100,000 the first year is for the stream protection and redevelopment loan program under Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.705.

Ditch Assessments

C \$116,000 the first year and \$116,000 the second year are for grants to the counties of Beltrami, Marshall, and Roseau for the payment of unpaid back ditch assessments on state lands.

Coon Lake

C \$20,000 in fiscal year 2000 is for a feasibility study of raising the control elevation of Coon Lake in Anoka county. The study must be completed by February 1, 2000.

Cannon River Watershed Grant

C \$200,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for a grant to the Cannon river

watershed partnership for protection, conservation, and enhancement of the ecological integrity of the Cannon river watershed. The grant the second year is contingent upon the establishment of a joint powers board by the counties of Steele, Rice, Goodhue, LeSueur, Waseca, and Dakota, and any cities and towns within the counties, to prepare a land use management and recreation plan for the Cannon river watershed; and to eventually provide grant programs for protection, conservation, and enhancement of the ecological integrity of the Cannon river watershed. The goal of the plan is to protect the river system's natural beauty, environment, and water quality. The purpose of the plan is to assist local units of government within the Cannon river watershed to adequately plan for the protective management of the river within their jurisdiction. The plan and programs must meet or exceed the requirements of state shoreland, floodplain, and wild and scenic river laws. The joint powers board must seek available federal funding, and funding or in-kind services from organizations and local units of government to complete the plan and implement the program. This is a one-time appropriation.

Thief River Falls Dredging

C \$118,000 is for a grant to the city of Thief River Falls to finish dredging projects within the city on the Red Lake river and the Thief river. This appropriation is in addition to the appropriation in Laws 1997, chapter 216, section 5, subdivision 3. This appropriation is available to the extent matched by an equal amount of nonstate money until June 30, 2001. This is a one-time appropriation.