



Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet



2012-2013 BIENNIAL BUDGET FACT SHEET State Park Dedicated Account Expenditures: \$750,000 FY2012 / \$750,000 FY2013 (Natural Resources Fund – State Park Account)

It is needed because

State parks serve as a gateway to connect people to Minnesota's great outdoors and are key to reversing the broad-based trend in declining outdoor recreation participation. This initiative provides \$750,000 in funding annually from the state park dedicated account in the natural resources fund, and allows for the revenue deposited in the state park dedicated account to be annually appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of operating and maintaining state parks.

Major program elements

As state park attendance has increased, revenue in state parks has increased 14 percent from FY 2007 to FY 2010. Revenue from the state park dedicated account is used for maintenance in state parks and state recreation areas. This funding will assist the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) efforts to meet customer expectations for maintenance and visitor services.

Priority-setting

DNR analyzes each park's level of activity, number and type of facilities, number of visitors, revenue raised, and resources managed in setting operating budgets. This initiative would assist in funding state park maintenance and operations throughout the system.

Project locations

Project locations are statewide.

Key measures and outcomes

Over 900,000 lodging nights are recorded annually in state parks. A recent customer satisfaction survey showed that 97 percent of state park customers were satisfied with their experience.

Financial Implications (if appropriate)

This initiative provides an additional \$750,000 from the state park dedicated account for state park operations and maintenance. Operating and maintenance costs have increased as state park attendance has increased from 8.3 million visitors in 2008 to approximately 9.5 million visitors in 2010.

For further information contact:

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