

2019 DNR Policy Fact Sheet



DNR Lands Bill

It is needed because

The Lands Bill is needed to amend existing laws relating to sales of surplus state land in order to reduce time and costs associated with those sales. The bill also includes provisions authorizing public and private sales of specific parcels of surplus riparian state land. Under current law, legislative authorization is required for those sales.

Major program elements

The bill makes changes in law to enable the DNR to improve efficiencies in its sales of surplus state lands.

The bill requires the DNR to offer federally recognized Indian tribes the opportunity to purchase surplus state lands within the reservation boundaries.

The bill also authorizes the addition and deletion of lands from state park boundaries and authorizes the sales of specific parcels of riparian land.

Sec. 1. Amends Minn. Stat. § 84.0273 to change the time period for publishing a notice of a proposed conveyance to resolve boundary line issues affecting state land and adjacent land.

Sec. 2. Amends Minn. Stat. § 92.115, subd. 1 to increase, from \$50,000 to \$100,000, the estimated market value of state land requiring an appraisal before it is offered for sale.

Sec. 3. Amends Minn. Stat. § 92.45 to authorize the DNR to sell surplus riparian state land by public sale without special legislation.

Sec. 4. Specifies the state departments, agencies and universities the DNR must notify of lands that may be declared surplus.

Sec. 5. Amends Minn. Stat. § 94.10 to:

- increase, from \$50,000 to \$100,000, the estimated market value of state land requiring an appraisal before it is offered for sale;
- require the DNR to first offer surplus state lands within the reservation boundary of a federally recognized Indian tribe to the tribe; and
- remove the requirement that the DNR publish notices of sales of surplus land in newspapers in the counties where the land is located.¹

Sec. 6. Adds 152.95 acres to the boundary of Glendalough State Park.

Sec. 7. Deletes 10.1 acres from the boundary of St. Croix State Park.

Sec. 8. Authorizes the sale of 16 acres of surplus state land bordering Perch Lake in Carlton County to the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Sec. 9. Authorizes the public sale of .54 acres of surplus state land bordering Woman Lake in Cass County.

Sec. 10. Authorizes the sale of 6.4 acres of surplus state land bordering Big Sand Lake in Hubbard County to Hubbard County at no cost.

Sec. 11. Authorizes the public sale of 4.9 acres of surplus state land bordering the Snake River in Kanabec County.

Sec. 12. Authorizes the public sale of .48 acres of surplus state land bordering the Big Pine Lake in Otter Tail County.

Sec. 13. Authorizes the public sale of 10 acres of surplus state land bordering the Zumbro River in Wabasha County.

Sec. 14. Authorizes the sale of 4.1 acres of surplus state land bordering Spellman Lake in Yellow Medicine County to the United States at no cost.

Fiscal impacts

- Removal of the newspaper publication requirement for notice of sales of surplus lands is expected to result in less subsidization of the land sales by the department. While the precise amount of revenue from the sales of authorized parcels is unknown, the proceeds of the sales will go into the land acquisition account for targeted, high priority land acquisitions.

For further information contact

*Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Rd, St. Paul, MN 55155-4047
651-259-5024
bob.meier@state.mn.us*

This information can be made available in alternative formats such as large print, braille or audio tape by emailing info.dnr@state.mn.us or calling 651-259-5016