

2020 DNR Lands Bill Proposal Fact Sheet



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It is needed because

The DNR currently lacks legal authority to convey easements to Tribal Nations or to charge a lease applicant fees to cover DNR's costs of monitoring the construction of recreational trails and facilities on DNR administered state land.

Legislative authorization is required for the DNR to make changes to state park and state recreation area boundaries and to sell surplus riparian land or surplus land by private sale. The bill includes provisions authorizing the addition and deletion of lands from state park boundaries and a state recreation area. It authorizes private sales of three parcels of surplus state land and the public sale of one parcel of surplus riparian state land.

Major program elements

The bill makes changes to Minn. Stat. § 84.63 to enable the DNR to grant easements for trails, highways, roads and other purposes to federally recognized Indian tribes. Currently this law authorizes the DNR to convey easements on DNR-administered state land to the United States and to the state and its subdivisions but not to Tribal Nations.

The bill amends Minn. Stat. § 92.502 to allow the DNR to assess a lease applicant fees to cover the reasonable projected costs of monitoring the construction of recreational trails or facilities on DNR administered state land.

The bill also authorizes the addition and deletion of lands from state park boundaries, the addition of land to a state recreation area and authorizes the sales of specific parcels of surplus land.

Fiscal impacts

Authorizing the DNR to grant easements to federally recognize Indian tribes and to assess lease applicants monitoring fees will likely have fiscal impacts, but the amounts are unknown.

The total estimated value of the Cass, Lake of the Woods and Wadena County sale parcels is \$34,000. However, it is not known whether the parcels will actually sell. If they do, the proceeds of the sales will go into the land acquisition account for targeted, high priority land acquisitions.

Statute Proposal

Sec. 1. Amends Minn. Stat. § 84.63 to allow the DNR to convey easements for trails, highways or roads to federally recognized Indian tribes.

Sec. 2. Amends Minn. Stat. § 92.502 to allow the DNR to assess a lease applicant fees to cover the reasonable projected costs of monitoring the construction of recreational trails or facilities on DNR administered state lands.

Sec. 3. Adds 36.72 acres to the boundary of Fort Snelling State Park, Dakota County.

Sec. 4. Adds 30.07 acres to the boundary of the Iron Range Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area, St. Louis County.

Sec. 5, Subd. 1. Deletes 8.38 acres from the boundary of Fort Snelling State Park, Dakota County.

Sec. 5, Subd. 2. Deletes 4.02 acres from the boundary of William O'Brien State Park, Washington County.

Sec. 6. Authorizes the private sale of 1.24 acres of surplus state land in Cass County.

Sec. 7. Authorizes the private sale of .49 acres of surplus state land in Lake of the Woods County.

Sec. 8. Authorizes the private sale of 2 acres of surplus state land in St. Louis County to New Independence Township at no cost.

Sec. 9. Authorizes the public sale of 39.5 acres of surplus state land bordering the Redeye River in Wadena County.