

# Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road · Saint Paul, Minnesota · 55155-4037

Office of the Commissioner

651-259-5555



May 23, 2011

The Honorable Cal R. Ludeman  
Secretary of the Senate  
231 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-1606

The Honorable Albin A. Mathiowetz  
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives  
211 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-1606

Dear Secretary Ludeman and Chief Clerk Mathiowetz:

Enclosed is the Department of Natural Resource's current dam safety program project priority needs list. It is being submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.511, subdivision 12, which requires the DNR to prioritize and report dam project needs to the legislature by June 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Landwehr".

Tom Landwehr  
Commissioner

Copy: Legislative Reference Library (6 copies)  
645 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1050



**Dam Safety Program - Project Priority Needs List**

**DNR Ecological and Water Resources**

Prepared as directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.511, Subdivision 12

Updated May 20, 2011

(Dollars in Thousands)

Priority Ranking	Name	Owner	County	DNR Region	Hazard Class	Project Type	Est Cost	State's Cost	Cumulative State Cost	Primary Needs	Comments
funded	Shell Rock (Albert Lea Lake)	County	Freeborn	4	2-Med.	Replace	\$500	\$250		maintain lake levels	Issue - ownership issue close to resolution
funded	Rush Creek	DNR	Chisago	3	N/A	Remove/restore	\$200	\$200		restore fish passage	Removal in 2011
funded	New London	DNR	Kandiyohi	4	1-High	Rehabilitate	\$2,950	\$2,950		safety/maintain lake levels	Project wrap up in 2011
funded	Jackson	City	Jackson	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$1,000	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	Construction underway
funded	Windom	City	Cottonwood	4	N/A	Remove/restore	\$300	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	Issue - remove or restore the dam
funded	Cross Lake	DNR	Pine	2	3-Low	Modify	\$225	\$225		safety/restore fish passage	Currently in design phase
funded	Hartley (Duluth)	City	St. Louis	2	1-High	Modify	\$500	\$250		safety/maintain lake levels	Scope of project being defined; dam break
funded	Luverne	City	Rock	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$150	\$75		safety/restore fish passage	Project complete
funded	Christine	City	Wilkin	1	3-Low	Modify	\$400	\$25		safety/restore fish passage	Project in 2011
funded	Hickson	City	Clay	1	3-Low	Modify	\$400	\$25		safety/restore fish passage	Project in 2011
funded	Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1	1-High	Rehab. eng.	\$800	\$800		safety/maintain lake levels	Final design work; \$9M reconstruction est.
funded	Pike River	DNR	St. Louis	2	2-Med.	Modify eng.	\$225	\$225		safety/maintain lake levels	poor condition
funded	Clayton Lake	DNR	Pine	2	3-Low	Repair	\$325	\$325		safety/historic preservation	historic, project is ready, SHPO approval
funded	Montevideo	City	Chippewa	4	2-Med.	Remove	\$300	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	community support for removal, damaged
funded	Lanesboro	City	Fillmore	3	1-High	Repair/rehab	\$900	\$450		safety/historical preservation	Issue - City funding
funded	Drayton	Drayton, ND	Kittson	1	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$1,000	\$250		safety/restore fish passage	many drownings, issues; \$ for MN side only
funded	Champlin Mill Pond	City	Hennepin	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$500	\$250		safety	WSB study, ownership, water quality
funded	Milaca	City	Mille Lacs	3	3-Low	Remove	\$300	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	drowning machine, City decision on removal
funded	Hallock	City	Kittson	1	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	need better PR, golf course, communicate
funded	Madison Lake	?	Blue Earth	4	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$50		maintain lake levels	Orphan dam, project in 2011
funded	Shady Lake	County	Olmsted	3	2-Med.	Remove	\$1,000	\$1,000		safety	2010 special session bonding
funded	Byllesby	County	Dakota/Goodhue	3	1-High	Repair	\$4,800	\$850		safety	PMF increase in capacity via FERC
1	Byllesby	County	Dakota/Goodhue	3	1-High	Repair	\$4,800	\$1,550	\$1,550	safety	This would bring DNR contribution to 50%
2	Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1	1-High	Rehab. eng.	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$10,550	safety/maintain lake levels	Final design work; \$9M reconstruction est.
3	Coon Rapids	County	Hennepin	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$26,550	safety	Fish passage barrier
4	Balsam Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$26,800	safety/maintain lake levels	Local support; concrete deterioration
5	Lizzie	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Modify	\$25	\$25	\$26,825	maintain lake levels	Don - Bog - maintenance headache
6	Perkins Lake	DNR	Stevens	3	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$27,025	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel and redo; remove crossing
7	Brawner	DNR	Lyon	4	3-Low	Repair/remove	\$250	\$250	\$27,275	safety	Dam-misc in bad shape, Parks and trail
8	Pelican Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$27,475	maintain lake levels	Abutment - Local support is high
9	Sullivan Lake	DNR	Morrison	3	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$100	\$27,575	maintain lake levels	Abutment- Local support, earth work
10	Height of Land Lake	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$27,675	maintain lake levels	Don-Bog - cut low piers and repairs
11	Coon Lake	DNR	Anoka	3	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$27,775	maintain lake levels	Conduits need replacement; Anoka Co help
12	Sand Hill Lake	DNR	Polk	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$27,875	fish passage/maintain lake	Bezek-fish passage, frost heave
13	Stalker	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$27,900	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, add fill to abutment
14	Sauk River	City	Stearns	3	3-Low	Remove	\$150	\$75	\$27,975	safety	Dan Lais request, contact St Cloud
15	Millerville	County	Douglas	1	3-Low	Reconstruct	\$100	\$50	\$28,025	safety	County road project
16	Sweeney Lake	City	Hennepin	3	3-Low	Replace	\$200	\$100	\$28,125	maintain lake levels	Len Kramer-Barr; Golden Valley/Bassett Cr
17	Tiflow Lake	City	Sibley	4	3-Low	Replace	\$300	\$150	\$28,275	maintain lake levels	Rock dam falling apart
18	Martin Lake	DNR	Anoka	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$28,325	safety	Fisheries support; fish barrier; TMDL
19	Shields	DNR	Rice	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$28,425	maintain lake levels	Don-right abutment has failed
20	State Hospital Pond	State	Nicollet	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$500	\$500	\$28,925	safety	buildings may get wet, prefer removal
21	Dam Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$29,025	maintain lake levels	Lonnie-both abutments
22	Ten Mile	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$29,125	maintain lake levels	Don-redo dam and embankment, sill
23	Deer Creek at Effie	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Replace	\$250	\$250	\$29,375	safety/aesthetics	Don-Left abutment
24	Eagle Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$29,400	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, tampering
25	Hanging Kettle Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$29,500	maintain lake levels	Don/Lonnie- both abutments falling
26	Long (Tamefish)	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$50	\$50	\$29,550	maintain lake levels	sheep pile heave, rocks and debris
27	Ripple Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$29,650	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, left abutment failing
28	Wynne	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$29,750	safety	Don-6 bays open, log jam, difficult access
29	Rum River (Anoka)	City	Anoka	3	3-Low	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$30,050	safety	Ekman-inquiry; flashboard, big gate
30	Homer township/Pickwick	Township	Winona	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$300	\$150	\$30,200	safety/maintain lake levels	order to repair, verify hazard
31	Sunrise River Pool #1	DNR	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$75	\$75	\$30,275	safety	might act as a drowning machine
32	Sunrise River Pool #2	DNR	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$75	\$75	\$30,350	safety	might act as a drowning machine
33	Clearwater River	Counties	Stearns/Wright	3	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$150	\$30,500	safety	recent bike trail
34	Big Stone Lake	WD/DNR	Big Stone	4	2-Med.	Modify	\$50	\$50	\$30,550	safety	Corps acceptance needed
35	Woolen Mill (Faribault)	City	Rice	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$400	\$200	\$30,750	safety	need scope of project
36	Knife Lake	LID	Kanabec	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$31,000	safety	drowning machine? Joe Raiolo, \$ seems high
37	Sunrise River (Kost)	County	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$50	\$31,050	safety	Fishing hole; need further discussions
38	Pine Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$31,200	maintain lake levels	Lonnie-not high priority, but keep on list
39	George Lake	DNR	Anoka	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$31,250	maintain lake levels	Don-should install heavy sheetpile
40	Northern Light Lake	DNR/USFS	Cook	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$31,300	maintain lake levels	need internal discussions
41	Melrose	City	Stearns	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$400	\$200	\$31,500	safety	Lais-shoreland stabilization
42	Pelican Rapids	City	Otter Tail	1	1-High	Repair	\$400	\$200	\$31,700	safety	Rock masonry wall leaning
43	French Lake	County	Rice	4	3-Low	Replace	\$200	\$100	\$31,800	maintain lake levels	Joe McGough-5 years
44	Fountain Lake (Albert Lea)	City	Freeborn	4	3-Low	Modify	\$300	\$150	\$31,950	safety	fish barrier?
45	Abandoned mining dams	State	Various	1		Repair/remove	\$500	\$500	\$32,450	safety	contact Jim Sellner, research
46	Round	DNR	Becker	2	3-Low	Modify	\$25	\$25	\$32,475	fish passage/maintain lake	Fish/bridge project; funded with LSOHC
47	Fish Lake	DNR	Kanabec	3	3-Low	Modify	\$250	\$250	\$32,725	safety/restore fish passage	Fisheries support; funded with LSOHC
48	Sylvia	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$32,775	fish passage/maintain lake	Removal/riffle abutment repair; LSOHC

**The remaining projects are grouped by DNR Region and are not prioritized.**

	Shell Lake	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Repair	\$75	\$75	\$32,850	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
	Hattie Lake	DNR	Cass	1	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$32,875	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, dam ok
	Milona Lake	DNR	Douglas	1	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$33,025	maintain lake levels	concrete deterioration, leaning left abutment
	Upper Hunt Lake	DNR	Douglas	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$33,125	maintain lake levels	
	Park Rapids (Fish Hook)	City	Hubbard	1	2-Med.	Repair	\$300	\$150	\$33,275	safety	
	Portage Lake	DNR	Hubbard	1	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$33,475	maintain lake levels	
	Stephen	City	Marshall	1	3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$100	\$33,575	safety/restore fish passage	
	Blanche	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$33,675	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete pier deterioration
	Fergus Falls	City	Otter Tail	1	N/A	Remove remnan	\$100	\$100	\$33,775	safety	
	Little Pine Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$33,875	maintain lake levels	Don-put top row in steel
	Long (Dalton)	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$33,925	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
	Long (Elizabeth)	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$33,975	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
	Prairie Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$34,075	maintain lake levels	Don-repair right abutment, snowmobile trail
	Rose Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$34,175	maintain lake levels	
	Crissy Lake	DNR	Stevens	1	2-Med.	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$34,475	safety/restore fish passage	
	Hill Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$34,525	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel
	Greer Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$34,625	maintain lake levels	
	O'Brien Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$34,725	maintain lake levels	steel recently installed
	Round Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$34,750	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
	Upper South Long Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$34,775	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, dam ok
	Buck Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$34,875	safety/aesthetics	
	Splithand Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Remove	\$100	\$100	\$34,975	safety/aesthetics	
	Grindstone River (Hinckley)	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Replace/modify	\$500	\$500	\$35,475	safety	
	Willow River	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$35,775	safety	
	Bear Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$100	\$35,875	maintain lake levels	
	Esquagama Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair/modify	\$500	\$500	\$36,375	maintain lake levels	Don-?
	Floodwood	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$36,475	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-dam ok?
	Pequaywan	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$36,525	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-fix eroded hole on apron
	Sturgeon Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$36,625	maintain lake levels	Don-?
	Bucksnort	private	Fillmore	3	3-Low	Remove	\$200	\$200	\$36,825	safety	
	Maywood (Rochester)	City	Olmsted	3	3-Low	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$37,075	safety	
	Silver Lake (Rochester)	City	Olmsted	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$37,375	safety	
	Cold Spring	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Modify	\$500	\$500	\$37,875	safety	
	Eden Lake	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$38,025	maintain lake levels	Don-put in stoplogs
	Sauk Centre	City	Stearns	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$38,275	safety	
	Fairhaven	County	Wright/Stearns	3	3-Low	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$38,575	safety	
	Rapidan	County	Blue Earth	4	2-Med.	Remove	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$46,075	safety/river restoration	energy dissipator Corps standards
	Springfield	not known	Brown	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150	\$46,225	safety/restore fish passage	
	Talcot Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	4	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$46,375	safety/maintain lake levels	
	Warren Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	4	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$46,625	safety/maintain lake levels	
	Mantorville	City	Dodge	4	3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$300	\$150	\$46,775	safety/maintain lake levels	
	Freeborn Lake	DNR	Freeborn	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$46,875	maintain lake levels	
	Washington Lake	not known	LeSueur	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$46,975	maintain lake levels	
	4th Street (Austin)	private	Mower	4	3-Low	Remove	\$250	\$250	\$47,225	safety	
	Louise Lake	DNR	Mower	4	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$47,525	safety/restore fish passage	
	Ramsey (Austin)	private	Mower	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$250	\$250	\$47,775	safety	
	Ocheda	DNR	Nobles	4	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$47,800	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, tampering
	Lamberton	County	Redwood	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150	\$47,950	safety/restore fish passage	
	Sanborn	not known	Redwood	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150	\$48,100	safety/restore fish passage	
	Blue Mounds (Lower)	DNR	Rock	4	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$48,400	maintain lake levels/historic pres.	
	Clear Lake	County	Sibley	4	3-Low	Replace			\$48,400	maintain lake levels	leaning sheet pile, drawdown capability
	Curran Lake	County	Sibley	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$50	\$48,450	maintain lake levels	
	High Island	DNR	Sibley	4	3-Low	Remove	\$200	\$200	\$48,650	safety/restore fish passage	
	Elysian Lake	DNR	Waseca	4	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$15			

## **103G.511 PUBLICLY OWNED DAM REPAIR.**

Subd. 6. **Determination of grant.** The commissioner shall consider all relevant factors in determining whether to repair or reconstruct a state-owned dam or to make a grant to a political subdivision including:

- (1) the age and type of construction of the dam;
- (2) the use of the dam for water supply, flood control, navigation, hydroelectric power generation, recreation, wildlife management, scenic value, or other purposes related to public health, safety, and welfare;
- (3) the consequences of abandonment, removal, or alteration of the dam;
- (4) prospective future uses of the dam; and
- (5) the relative importance of the dam to the statewide water resource program.

Subd. 12. **Priority list of dams needing repair.** After reviewing examinations of dams owned by the state and political subdivisions, the commissioner shall prioritize the state and political subdivision dams in need of repair, reconstruction, or removal and report by June 1 of each odd-numbered year to the legislature. The commissioner must prioritize projects considering danger to life, damage to property, and the factors listed in subdivision 6.